

Mr Heath warns MPs of crisis unless evolution is agreed

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Heath to ignore Scots' demands

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

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Thatcher warning of Soviet might

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

Mrs Thatcher, the Conservative leader, last night pledged the Tory Party to the task of "shaking the British public out of the effects of a prolonged course of sedation" and alerting them to the threat to Britain and the West of the rapidly growing naval and military power of the Soviet Union.

In her most aggressive speech since becoming leader, she declared: "The Russians are bent on world domination." Yet, although the strategic threat to Britain and her allies from an expansionist power was greater than at any period since the last war, the Labour Government was dismantling our defences.

"The Russians put guns before butter," she told a Conservative rally in Kensington. "We put just about everything before guns."

The decline of Britain's relative power in the world was partly inevitable, with the rise of the nuclear super-powers, but it was partly avoidable, the result of Britain's economic decay arising from processes the Labour Government had assisted. We will reverse those processes when we return to government.

Sedatives had been applied to the British public, she said, by people in and out of government "who have been telling us that there is no external threat to Britain, that all is sweetness and light in Moscow, and that a squadron of fighter planes or a company of marine commandos is less important than a new subsidy for a loss-making plant."

The Conservative Party must now sound the warning. "There are moments in our history when we have to make a fundamental choice. This is one such moment, when our choice will determine the life or death of our kind of society, and the future of our children. Let us ensure that our children will have a choice to make."

By making defence the main theme of her speech Mrs Thatcher was not responding to any pressure within the party, although some of her arguments were similar to those of Mr Ian Gifford, a former Conservative minister, who criticized the party's attitude to defence in a speech on Sunday.

She recalled, pointedly, that before the Helsinki summit conference she had said: "The evidence of Soviet rearmament is not clear. The theory that Russia is seeking genuine détente. I warned of the dangers of falling for an illusory détente. Some people were sceptical at the time, but now we see the reality. The warning was fully justified."

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Prisoners captured when Beirut's Muslim stronghold of Karantina was overrun yesterday by the Christian Phalangists.

Weeping Muslims see homes burned in Beirut

Beirut, Jan 19.—Right-wing Christian Phalangists were today bulldozing the blazing ruins of the Karantina shantytown in north-east Beirut after one of the most pitiless battles of the Lebanese civil war.

After more than 30 hours of bloody fighting, they were in control of three-quarters of the tumbledown sector, a Muslim enclave occupied until a year ago by about 40,000 poor people, in the middle of a Christian area. In the remaining quarter, left-wing and Palestinian forces were putting up a desperate resistance, street by street and dwelling by dwelling.

Dozens of terrified men, women and children emerged weeping with arms raised from corrugated iron shacks as the Phalangist advance continued. Some carried white flags, but otherwise they brought nothing. By the light of the fires, amid the crackling of gunfire and the explosion of shells, they were quickly searched then herded in a long column to the edge of the district.

They would not be returning to Karantina. As each group of dwellings was evacuated it was systematically set on fire. Then a bulldozer arrived to begin work amid the flames.

All around, the flames spread, and the sky was blackened by thick smoke. The dead were left in the middle of the streets. "We are going to raze the district so it doesn't present a problem any more; then we will build a new district," one Phalangist militiaman said, hurling a petrol bomb through the window of a dwelling which had just been abandoned.

The Phalangists allowed journalists into the fighting zones today while the inhabitants were still there. Left-wing and Palestinian forces have so far refused admission to besieged Christian areas south of the capital, where the right-wing Christian National Liberal Party claims that 30 women and children were massacred.

"It's terrible to have got this far, but there was no other possibility," a Phalangist official said. "We've been threatening for 10 months to intervene in Karantina if our communication lines continued to be machine-gunned from there."

But our warnings were ignored. Three of our men were killed in one of our vehicles two days ago."

Militarily, occupation of the district did not present the Phalangists with problems. It was surrounded by Phalangist positions on all sides. The aim was to open up, by tonight, Christian communications between the eastern suburbs and the mountains near by.

The 40,000 people who lived in Karantina up to a year ago were mainly Syrians and Kurds, but they also included Lebanese from the south and some Palestinians. Most of them left after the civil war broke out last April, no longer able to find work in the harbour and factories.

The Phalangists took over Karantina's hospital last night and the abattoir and refugee treatment plant this morning. This afternoon, at the end of a blazing street, left-wing militia opened fire from a car battery plant.

Phalangists managed to force a door of the factory, found a small cache of arms and ammunition, and called for support. The shelling began quickly. Thus their grip

lightened on Karantina's remaining pocket of resistance. The Muslim civilians, about 500 in all, were prodded along by the armed Phalangists to a warehouse on the west side of Karantina. "Yalla, yalla (go on, go on)," the militia shouted.

In the courtyard of the warehouse, about 30 male civilians were ordered to lean with their outstretched palms against a wall, legs straddled, during the search.

The Phalangists suspected that the bulky garments of one old barefoot woman might conceal a weapon. They searched her, and found nothing.

One militiaman shouted at the huddled group: "Long live Lebanon." Cowed and bewildered, they cried back: "Long live Lebanon."

There was clear evidence of the left-wing sympathies of the area. Flung on a heap of rubbish near the hospital, which has been deserted for the past six weeks, was a bust of the late President Nasser of Egypt. A picture of President Gaddafi of Libya was stuck to the radiator of a captured lorry.

Continued on page 6, col 1

Call-up averts Spanish national rail strike

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Jan 19

The Spanish Government today averted a strike in the state-run railway system by mobilizing all 62,000 employees. The drawn fight this week to halt a strike by postal workers last week.

But no agreement has yet been reached with Madrid's 4,000 underground. Metro workers who have threatened to strike again this week if their demands are not met. According to informed sources, the Government is afraid to mobilize them in case they defy the order and mutiny.

Like the postal workers, the mainline railwaymen are now under military law, which could lead to court martial proceedings if they strike again. Eight postmen, arrested last week, are due to appear before a military court.

The rail and postal workers are civil servants but the Metro company is privately owned although heavily subsidized by the state. The move against the railmen has not averted the strike of workers employed by Wagon Lits, the private company operating Pullman services.

In Madrid the construction industry has returned to normal after an estimated 80,000 workers went on strike, but other industries continued to be closed.

Para-military Civil Guards surrounded the Chrysler car plant this morning when some employees tried to return to work. They were turned back by pickets at the gates and there were several scuffles.

Mr Sandy Gall, an ITN newscaster, and his American cameraman, Mr William Greene, were held for more than three hours by police when they tried to film the incident outside the factory. They were

taken to police headquarters in the centre of Madrid, where they had to remove their watches, belts and shoe laces. Only the arrival of an official from the Ministry of Information and Tourism with a blue form ordering their release saved them from a spell in the cells.

The 55 people arrested by police at a house-warming party in Madrid on Saturday have been released. The host was a lawyer who specializes in labour affairs.

In Bilbao, police arrested an unknown number of people yesterday as a pro-democracy march, and several people were arrested in the working class suburb of Carabanchel in Madrid after a similar march.

While the Government kept up its action against strikers, Señor Carlos Arias Navarro, the Prime Minister, reaffirmed his promise of eventual liberalization. Speaking to the ruling council of the National Movement, the only legal political party, he said that "only the will of the Spanish people, which cannot be overruled by spontaneous performers, will have the last word."

He reiterated his desire to put the country back on the road to democracy. "From a system of unconditional personal support we have to pass to one of institutional participation," he said when paying homage to the late General Franco.

Señor Arias gave warning that authority "can in no way be considered an object of discussion or negotiation." He continued: "We know perfectly well the origin and real aim of subversion: we are clearly aware of its misguided and criminal objectives."

The Government would use all its energy and force to stamp it out, he promised.

Icelandic ultimatum on cutting diplomatic link

Reykjavik, Jan 19.—The Icelandic Government today told Britain that it will break off diplomatic relations unless British warships and reconnaissance aircraft are withdrawn from its waters.

The ultimatum, which was declared 200-mile fishing zone by midnight next Saturday, said Mr Kenneth East, the British Ambassador, was summoned to the Foreign Ministry here this afternoon and handed a Note to this effect by Mr Hordur Helgason, deputy head of the ministry.

It is understood that all Icelandic diplomats would be recalled from London and the British embassy here would be closed.

In Copenhagen, Danish sources said that if the diplomatic break did take place France was expected to protect British interests in Iceland and Norway would represent Iceland in London.

Government officials here said the diplomatic move had no connection with the latest "cod war" incident earlier today when an Icelandic patrol boat and a British trawler collided off the east coast. While the Icelandic coastguard accused the 39-ton Grimsby trawler Lord Jellicoe of reversing into the patrol boat Aegir at full speed, Mr Peter Fenty,

the trawler skipper, claimed that this version of events was "rubbish".

The collision caused a 3ft split above the trawler's waterline and a 12ft dent down the hull, and tonight engineers from the support ship Miranda were pouring cement into the crack in an effort to seal it before the storm which was forecast broke.

Mr Fenty, in a radio call to the Royal Navy frigate Naiad, said the Aegir had misjudged its first trawl-cutting run on the stern of his vessel, and rammed it. The patrol boat then made a complete circle, slipped across the trawler's bow, and steamed down the starboard side where the crew were hauling in the fishing gear.

Michael Borsby writes from Brussels: Iceland's ultimatum was expected to be discussed over dinner here tonight by Mr Callaghan, Britain's Foreign Secretary, and Dr Joseph Luns, NATO's secretary-general, who recently returned from Reykjavik.

The abrupt announcement from Reykjavik would appear to have dashed any lingering hopes that Dr Luns's mediation might produce results, and Mr Callaghan may now decide to appeal to the EEC to use its influence as Iceland's main trading partner.

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Jets collide and crash near village

From John Chartres
Nanwich

A mid-air collision near Nanwich, Cheshire, yesterday is likely to lead to questioning of the use of the quite thickly populated area for RAF low-level training.

The falling wreckage of two Harrier vertical take-off jet fighters missed farm buildings, cottages and a public house by between 50 and 100 yards. The roofs of council houses in the village of Cholmondeston and a farm dairy were damaged. Pieces of wreckage were scattered over about a square mile. Both pilots were killed.

The aircraft were two of four apparently practising turning in towards one another at low level, according to three witnesses, all employees of the Crewe rail workshops who were fishing on the Shrewsbury Union Canal at Cholmondeston. One of them, Mr Dennis

Fenna, of Fletcher Street, Crewe, put the height of the aircraft before the collision at "no more than the top of Blackpool tower."

The fuselage of one Harrier, on fire and still containing the body of its pilot, fell about three hundred yards from Elms Farm and about the same distance from the Little Man public house, where about fifty members of the Cheshire Beagles and supporters had been assembled just before the crash.

Three hours after the accident a Harrier was seen flying over the area at about 200ft. The RAF said the aircraft, from number 230 operational conversion unit at Wittering, Northamptonshire, were being flown by instructors on qualification tests.

Strike Command said details of the height of the aircraft and their manoeuvre would be subjects of an official inquiry.

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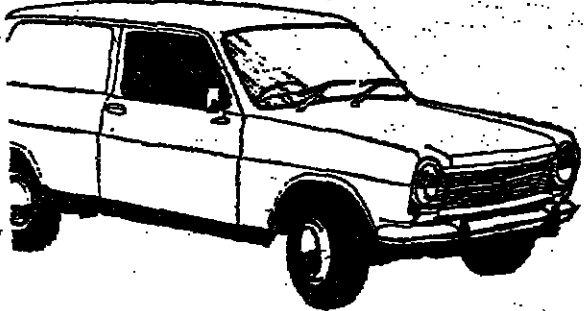
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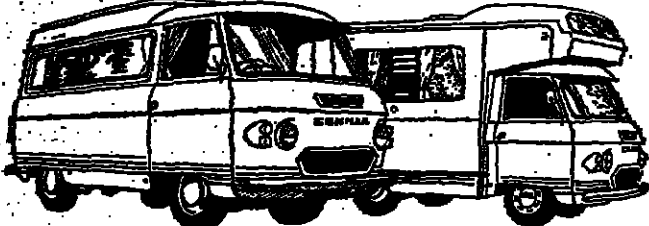
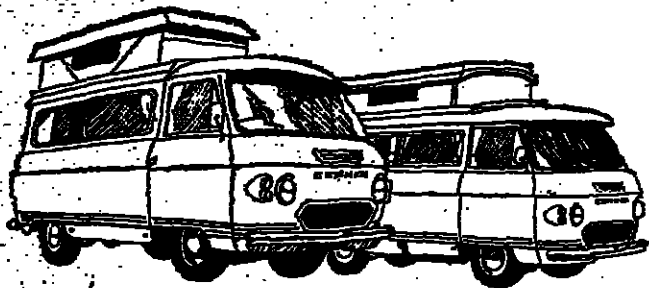
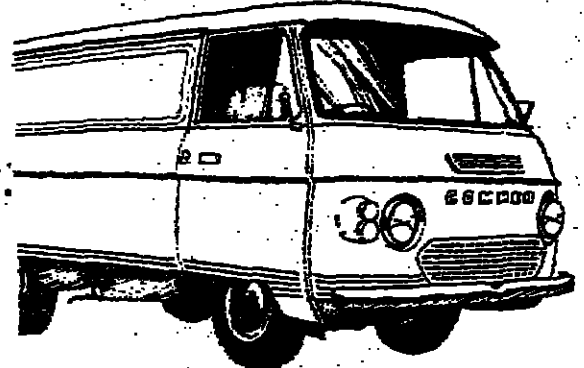
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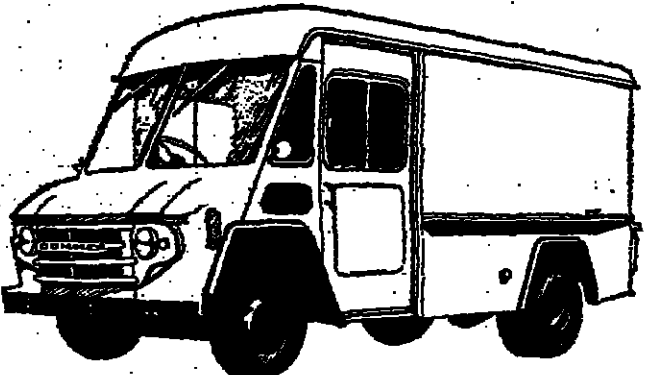
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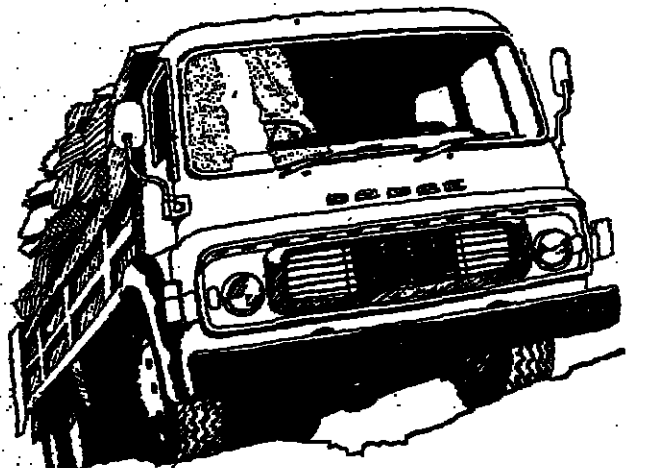
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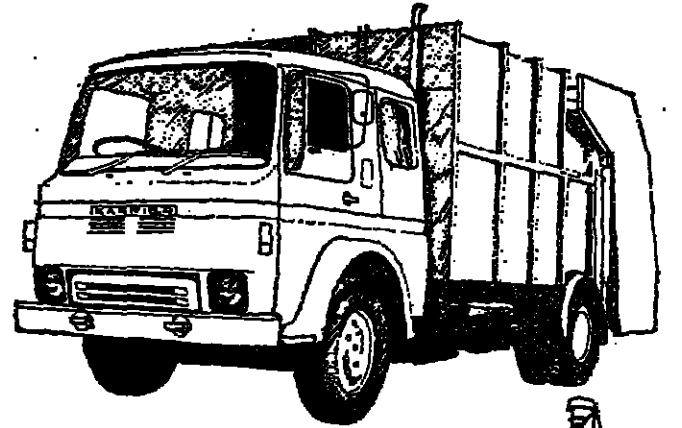


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HOME NEWS

Glasgow offers £6.5m pruning in 'special case' plea to Whitehall

From Ronald Paux

Glasgow. Single-shift working at public wash-houses, closure of 21 public lavatories, and a range of other large savings, including £1.2m cuts in council house repairs, Glasgow hopes to prune public spending this year by £6.5m.

That will be the city's offering today when civic leaders meet Mr Ross, Secretary of State for Scotland, in London to discuss the financial plight of the city.

The Government has laid down guidelines for Glasgow, suggesting savings of £13.4m which the district council rejects as impossible to achieve without throwing at least two thousand people out of work or raising the rates by two-fifths.

Under Glasgow's proposed economies libraries, planning, museums, markets, environmental health and cleansing would face reduction in spending. People would remain in work but improvement plans and non-essential maintenance would be shelved.

The district council is seeking a compromise with the Government and hopes to convince ministers that Glasgow qualifies as a 'special case'.

Mr William Ross, director of finance, said he believed the Government misunderstood the running costs of town and country areas. "They say they want to help us, and in theory have been converted to positive discrimination in favour of urban areas. In fact there is positive discrimination against them."

Glasgow's difficulties run far deeper than an immediate cash shortage for public services. The city faces formidable tasks of slum clearance and urban renewal. The budget for the next financial year lies between £140m and £150m, of which 43 per cent is devoted to charges created by housing and redevelopment.

The population of the city has deliberately been reduced from 1,250,000 to fewer than 900,000 to lessen chronic over-

crowding, but there are fewer ratepayers to meet the rising debt. The city's policy on the scale proposed by the Secretary of State are imposed the reduction in services makes the city less attractive and fewer people want to move there.

"If we put the rates up, people are discouraged; if we leave things as they are, people are equally discouraged," Mr English said. With such a descending spiral the future of Glasgow is gloomy.

The city complains that by contrast several areas emerged from the Government's pruning shears relatively untouched. Even more unfairly in the urban view, parts of north and north-east Scotland have been allowed to decrease their spending by 17 per cent.

The city's policy and resources committee considers that what the Government expects of Glasgow is totally unrealistic and would amount to a 27 per cent cut in spending this year.

Behind the financial question lies an even more uneasy political situation. The Glasgow district contains the core of socialism in west central Scotland, upon which the Government and Labour Party heavily depend.

The party in Scotland believes there is no swifter way of losing support than by increasing the cost of public services. The condition of much of Glasgow's housing has long been an embarrassment to the city, but to improve it would be immensely costly.

Rate and rates have already risen sharply over the past year. If that is to be followed by severe cuts in services, many local councillors think the result might be politically disastrous, particularly with the Scottish National Party providing voters with an alternative.

The emergence of a new Scottish Labour Party critical of the way socialism is being represented in Scotland adds another worry.

Leading article, page 13

Talks over dogs at flower show

By a Staff Reporter

Mr Morris, Minister for the Disabled, is to seek a meeting of the Royal Horticultural Society and organizations representing the blind, after reading disclosures in *The Times* that guide dogs for the blind were not exempt from a ban on the admission of dogs to the Chelsea Flower Show.

Mr Morris said yesterday: "I am naturally concerned to improve access for all disabled people, including the blind, to public and social events of all kinds. My aim is to help disabled people to live their lives to the full."

Although guide dogs for the blind are highly trained there is a possibility that people might be injured at the Chelsea Flower Show if they are admitted; there is therefore no alternative in the interests of safety but to ban them. The Royal Horticultural Society said in a statement yesterday.

The ban was criticized by Lord Snowdon in a letter to *The Times* in which he said the society was displaying a lack of understanding of the kind that was the bane of many disabled people's lives.

"It is necessary to consider whether, because of conditions which cannot be modified, there may be categories of potential visitors who might be of special risk, or who might, unintentionally, create a risk for others," the society said.

"Dogs constitute a hazard. Guide dogs, unlike other dogs, are highly trained to cope with normal crowd conditions and, even in the special conditions at Chelsea, could certainly be relied upon to guide their owners safely."

"They might well, however, find it extremely difficult, in a forest of legs, to avoid other visitors, unaware of their presence and therefore unable to take avoiding action. The possibility of injury both to the dogs and members of the public in such circumstances cannot be overlooked."

The society added that it had been suggested that if a visitor, possibly elderly, fell because of tripping over a dog and was seriously injured the society's insurance company would provide compensation.

Farmer cleared of blackmailing girl's seducer

From Our Correspondent

Norwich. John Browne, a farmer, who was said to have valued his daughter's virginity at £1,000, was cleared at Norwich Crown Court yesterday of blackmailing her. Mr Browne, aged 47, had pleaded not guilty to two charges of demanding money with menaces from Mr X, who made love on four occasions to Mr Browne's daughter, Alison, aged 17.

The prosecution said that Mr Browne, of Mill Farm, Deopham, Norfolk, had threatened to tell Mr X's wife of the affair unless he bought a £400 horsebox for Alison, a keen show-jumper.

Mr Browne said Mr X had voluntarily offered to pay for the horsebox to make amends for his seduction. Mr X, however, said he would not have paid a penny if he had not been threatened.

Subsidies on cheese to be reduced

By Hugh Clayton

Subsidies paid to processors and importers of cheese are to be cut by almost 12p a pound next week. That will reduce the value of the subsidy to shoppers by 2p a pound to 10p. The reduction was announced yesterday by Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection. Immediately there was a warning from the dairy industry about "unfair distortion of the trade".

Mr Paul Pegden-Smith, products director of the Dairy Trades Federation, called on the Government to ensure that importers do not gain an unfair advantage. Dairies at home received the subsidy when their cheese was sold, he explained. Importers were paid when their cheese entered this country.

The industry said the subsidy was in force and sold them after it had been reduced. "That would be like giving them an extra discount that we do not have," Mr Pegden-Smith said.

Mrs Williams said the subsidy fund had to be cut by £2m a year because rising demand for subsidized food was pushing expenditure towards its limit.

Petition on pay beds

Four thousand forms asking the Government to name a date for phasing out private beds from National Health Service hospitals have been sent by the Socialist Medical Association to members, trade unions and Labour Party organizations.

Crusty loaf is rising in the public's esteem

By a Staff Reporter

More people than at any time since the last war are turning to the traditional fresh crusty loaf in preference to the sliced and wrapped variety. Mr Morris, Minister for the National Association of Master Bakers, said yesterday.

Speaking at a meeting of the association in Chester, he said that 63 more local bakers were baking a real bread this year than last, increasing the association's membership to nearly four thousand. "This is the first substantial increase in the craftsman membership of the National Association of Master Bakers since the end of the war."

The standard wrapped, sliced loaf sold typically in supermarkets accounted for more than half the nation's bread consumption and it was cheaper than the crusty loaf. "But the growth in the number of master bakers' businesses shows that in terms of value the public think the crusty, fresh-baked loaf is definitely better buy," Mr Zimmerman added.

Better grades of flour, higher fuel costs, skilled labour and smaller batches to provide variety accounted for the higher cost of the crusty loaf.

The union wants the present system, under which the doctors' pay and conditions are subject to the doctors' independent review body, replaced by straight collective bargaining.

Mr Reginald Bird, the union's national officer, said the present dispute between the junior doctors and the Department of Health would not have arisen



Flight Lieutenant Lesley Cook, aged 27, based at RAF Lyneham, Wiltshire, the first woman air traffic controller to join the examining board.

Six men get bail on kidnapping charge

By Geoffrey Smith

Six London men were granted bail at Salford Magistrates' Court, Greater Manchester, yesterday on a charge of kidnapping a couple and their daughter, aged seven months. They are accused of abducting Mr Victor Ormond Scott, aged 28, his wife Diana, aged 26, and their daughter, Chantrel, from their home at Eccleston Place, Salford, on January 3.

The men had been remanded in custody since January 8. They are: Barry Stevenson Joseph, aged 24, of Prendergast Road, Blackheath; Ernest Ulvert, aged 37, of Beresford Avenue, Hanwell; Lucius Everard Plummer, aged 37, of Hamilton Road, Golders Green; Sederick Lushington Downer, aged 30, of Richmond Street, Hammersmith; Alfie Adolphus Harvey, aged 36, of Folberry Road, Brockley; and Raphael Boyd, aged 29, of Tuscan Road, Woolwich. They were remanded until March 15.

Mr Plummer, Mr Harvey, Mr Ulvert and Mr Downer are also accused of robbery, wounding and causing grievous bodily harm to Mr Scott. Three London women were granted bail until March 15 when they appeared with the six men a week ago accused of abducting the Scots.

Fear of dispute between transport unions

From a Staff Reporter

Wakefield. Fears of a dispute between road and rail unions over the apportionment of public money to the two services were expressed by Mr Thomas Lord, director general of the West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive, at Wakefield yesterday.

Earlier Councillor Dennis Matthews, chairman of West Yorkshire County Council Passenger Transport Committee, had outlined the council's transport policy, saying that out of an estimated total commitment of £13.15m, £5.78m would be to support the transport executive and National Bus Company services and £7.37m for local railway passenger services.

Road transport union officials maintain that the contribution to rail is disproportionate to the use of the services. Bus passenger journeys number an estimated 1,500,000 compared with 50,000 passenger journeys by rail.

At yesterday's meeting Mr Lord admitted that the executive was "not happy" with the distribution of public money. It means that some of the services would be uplifted and others reduced. He said: "We are not wanting to create trade union conflict in the county. There are dangers that such a conflict will emerge."

On financial policy and prospects, Mr Matthews said bus and train services in West Yorkshire would be maintained at broadly their existing level. "Although in line with government policy we have had to reduce the level of council support for bus services," he said. "I am hopeful that we shall see the year through successfully and the best possible services will be provided within our resources."

It was hoped that fares on transport executive buses would be held at their present level. It was hoped also that National Bus fares, the subject of an application for increase recently, would be substantiated and held to their present level; talks were going on to that end.

On railway strategy, Mr Matthews said West Yorkshire was carrying out a holding operation on local railway passenger services until a comprehensive review of the local network was completed later this year. He was hopeful, however, that when services were restored, they would be integrated with the bus system, improvements to encourage more use of the railway could proceed.

There is also provision for a government committee to screen the backgrounds of immigrant workers to establish whether they have criminal records or are otherwise undesirable as residents.

The Act has been passed because the island, through its former associate membership of the Common Market, cannot exercise its own immigration controls. Workers will still be able to move freely into the island but the Manx Government will have statutory powers to deny work to those who are unwanted. Meanwhile the island's present work-permit system has been tightened because of growing unemployment.

There is also provision for a government committee to screen the backgrounds of immigrant workers to establish whether they have criminal records or are otherwise undesirable as residents.

The Act increases from five years to 10 the qualifying period of residence in the island for a man or woman to be considered an "Isle of Man worker". Those who are not, need a work permit: the present system has been defined, improvements to encourage more use of the railway could proceed.

There is also provision for a government committee to screen the backgrounds of immigrant workers to establish whether they have criminal records or are otherwise undesirable as residents.

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Local authorities fear pressure from regional assemblies

Demand in Wales for a devolution referendum

By Geoffrey Smith

There is a swelling chorus of demand from local authorities in Wales for a referendum on the principle before the Government's devolution proposals are put into effect. A good many Welsh authorities have taken this position officially and the plea was heard time and again at a conference on devolution organized in Cardiff last week by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (Cipfa) and attended principally by local government elected members and officials.

Both at this conference and a similar one held by Cipfa in Glasgow the previous week there was scepticism over the Government's intentions. It was some extent the expression of a special interest. Local government people in both countries are clearly worried lest their own activities should be cramped by the creation of Scottish and Welsh assemblies. The very existence of a Westminster is seen as something of an advantage by those running local authorities. Parliament is no distant and too busy to interfere incessantly. Ministers and officials at the Scottish and Welsh Offices have enough to do without becoming involved in the details of local administration.

But, it was maintained, the members of these new assemblies may not have enough to do. They will want to enhance their role, and therefore possibly to seek work. If the assemblies are organized on committee lines, as the White Paper suggests, then it would be natural for part of that work to be detailed investigation by committees into how local authorities are carrying out their responsibilities in the field in question. In any event it is feared that local authorities will find the immediately superior level of government pressing more closely upon them.

That raises two other fears. The first is that the creation of this new layer of government will not be compatible with the present structure of local government. In both countries reform of the structure of local government has preceded devolution. New, and in some cases large, regional authorities have been established which, it is thought, may soon find themselves bumping their heads against their respective assemblies.

The problem is liable to be particularly acute in Scotland, where the Strathclyde Region encompasses more than a third of the population in the country.

Even those members of Strathclyde who had misgivings about forming such a vast region in the first place would be sorry to see it split up now. They have worked hard to get it going and do not want to see their efforts wasted; but it

is widely accepted in Scotland, and local authority people and local government cannot remain anchored with an assembly and that Strathclyde Region in particular must go.

The last reform of Scottish local government was exceedingly unpopular; and the regional authorities, which came into operation last year, are the objects of intense disapproval. But those in local government dread another upheaval, and it is generally believed that no matter how necessary it may be, such an exercise would be no more popular than the last. The White Paper scheme, however, would leave that task in Scotland to the assembly.

Not so in Wales. As the Welsh assembly would have no direct legislative powers, the local government would remain the responsibility of Westminster. But in Welsh local government circles it is believed that changes would have to be made there as well so that even if the United Kingdom Government did not introduce proposals for reform immediately something would have to be done at some time. Devolution would therefore upset the organization of Welsh local government.

Finance is another anxiety. The proposal for the assemblies to be able to levy a surcharge

Obscenity trial of Linda Lovelace book

A paperback sex book, *Inside Linda Lovelace*, written by Miss Lovelace who appeared in the film *Deep Throat*, was the subject of a prosecution at the Central Criminal Court yesterday. A jury of three women and nine men was asked to decide whether it was obscene.

Mr John Mortimer, QC, for the defence, told them: "You will have to ask yourselves whether our society is such, having survived two major wars, that it will actually tolerate to an end because Miss Lovelace cheerfully indulges in all sorts of sexual shenanigans."

He warned the jury that it was the story of a woman with sexual excesses in her throat, and added: "We are not living in a world when Victorian ladies thought trousers should be put on piano legs."

Heinrich Hanau, a publisher, and his company, Heinrich Hanau Publications, both of Old Compton Street, Soho, London, pleaded not guilty to publishing an obscene article. Mr Brian Leary, for the prosecution, said the jury would be asked to retire with copies of the book and read it. Mr Hanau and his company would answer questions for publishing the book. The distributor, Universal Tandem Publications, had been asked to print 50,000 copies in the summer of 1974. Just over 38,000 had been sold.

In deciding whether the book was obscene the jury would have to decide whether it tended to corrupt or deprave persons likely to see or read it. Under the Act it would be open for the defence to claim that it was published on the ground of public good, in the interests of science, literature, art or learning.

Sergeant Stanley Collins, of Scotland Yard, said Mr Hanau was told that the Director of Public Prosecutions had received a complaint about *Inside Linda Lovelace*.

Mr Hanau said the book had been published in America by Planet Books, with whom he had a friendly sales and business relationship. He also had a contract to publish a sequel to the book, called *The Intimate Diary of Linda Lovelace*.

Mr Mortimer, who contended that the prosecution was a form of censorship, said it might be a relief to the jury, "living in a time of stress and disquiet, men by appalling crimes and explosions, that the prosecution, which is mounted here with the full majesty of the law against a book, deals specially, directly and openly with the pleasures which men and women may give each other by sex, by love-making, with care and concern and perhaps indignity."

The trial continues today.

Defendant in Whittle case asks for solicitor

Donald Neilson, who is accused of murdering Lesley Whittle, the widow, asked at Newcastle-under-Lyme Magistrates' Court, Staffordshire, yesterday for his solicitor to attend court.

Mr Philip May, the clerk, told him that he would get in touch with the solicitor, Mr Barrington Black, of Leeds, who two weeks ago was given permission not to attend every hearing.

Mr Neilson, 39, of Grangefield Avenue, Thornbury, Bradford, was remanded in custody for a week. Mr Black had said at the earlier hearing that it did not seem necessary to attend each appearance.

Man cleared of arms charges

Hugh McDonald, aged 38, was cleared at the High Court in Glasgow yesterday of three charges of possessing firearm and explosives. He blamed his son, William, aged 17, who has since disappeared in Belfast, for the offences.

Mr McDonald, of Fesque Place, Drumchapel, Glasgow, denied having a saw-edged shotgun pistol and sodium chlorate in his car. He also denied being a member or sympathizer of the Ulster Volunteer Force.

£48,000 to be spent on castle

Fife Regional Council will spend £48,000 on the restoration of Balmoral Castle. That sum will come from £100,000 which has been set aside for the improvement of the environment this year.

But a councillor opposed the decision said: "Because we have allocated £100,000 this does not mean we have to spend it. We have had to pay out extra money for bus services and other things, such as road repairs and lighting."

Chief dining car steward cleared

Daniel McDowell, a chief dining car steward, was cleared at the Central Criminal Court yesterday of involvement in £56,000 fraud operated by several of his fellow stewards and cooks on trains between King's Cross and Scotland. It was found that he was guilty of counts of theft, two of forged and one of dishonestly handling £100.

Mr McDowell, aged 38, of Scortswold Walk, Northumberland Park, Tottenham, London was discharged.

Rapist jailed for six years

A rapist was jailed at Liverpool Crown Court yesterday for six years. Robert Gary Ellis, aged 27, was found guilty of breaking into a Southport house at 3 am on October 1 and raping the proprietress, her bed at knife point.

Mr Elliott, of no fixed abode, was found guilty of the offence after a trial at which he escaped over the rooftops, the court was told.

Conductress injured

Mrs Mary Bowman, a bus conductress of Inverkeithing Fife, was trapped for 45 minutes in her bus yesterday when it struck a parked lorry. She was detained in Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy, with head and leg injuries. Twelve passengers were injured.

Concorde celebration

British Airways has brought television equipment from America to enable important guests at an Anglo-French celebration tomorrow at Heathrow to watch the simultaneous take-offs of the two Concorde off the first passenger flights from London and Paris.

Rescued girl dies

Lynne Forman, aged 17, of Cambridge, who was rescued from a blazing car which crashed on December 19, killing three other people, died in hospital yesterday.

Rate cut proposed

Winchester City Council policy committee decided yesterday to recommend a cut 1p in rates after "strenuous efforts" at economy.

Children escape fire

Sixty-six children escape injury yesterday when a fire damaged a school for the educationally subnormal at Lichfield.

DEFENSE

Britain fights to keep
of market scheme as
C farm talks open

David Cross

Jan 19

European Community's scheme for a new crop year in Brussels this week a British Government thing to retain the beef marketing system temporarily as part of renegotiated EEC ship terms.

A two-day meeting of the Agriculture of the high opened here this morning. Mr Fred Peart, the minister, is expected to announce his decision on the matter. It represents an essential net for British.

also likely to press for Community funds to help farmers pay for the expensive butter, which results from this annual price review. As stand, shop prices of beef are likely to rise by 5p a pound in the and a further 1.5p in the

basis for the talks will be of recommendations European Commission price increase average per cent across the impact of such rises consumer would be less per cent, the Commission.

several of the Commission 10 million farmers, already requested an increase of 10.6 per day-rejected the Commission proposals as "totally unworkable".

erry Plumb, the president of the European farmers'

organization, Copa, told a press conference that the standard of living of most farmers would be cut for the third year running. "The proposals, which are mainly based on budgetary considerations, bear no relation to the real income position of farmers and disregard the Community's responsibility to provide its consumers with secure food supplies and to contribute to world food supplies," he said.

In a separate development, the Commission today announced that it would allow its 18-month beef import ban. Importers will henceforth be allowed to import beef provided they agree to buy a similar quantity from the Community.

It was mainly to avoid the creation of a British beef mountain that the Labour Government successfully secured a special marketing system a year ago. As a result, surplus stocks have never risen above 1,000 tons, compared with levels of 75,000 tons in France and 85,000 in Ireland.

The rest of the Community argues, however, that although the British "variable premium" scheme has shown good results, an exception to EEC rules in one member country is no longer justifiable.

It is generally felt in Brussels that at the end of the day the British will be allowed to keep their special marketing system for another year at least. But in his struggle to maintain the system, Mr Peart will be prevented from concentrating his attention on seeking other concessions.

Strasbourg
hearing on
'Little Red
Schoolbook'

From Our Correspondent

Strasbourg, Jan 19

A complaint against Britain over the seizure of the 'Little Red Schoolbook' is to be heard by the European Court of Human Rights, it was announced here today.

Mr Richard Handyside, the publisher, claims that the seizure of the book by the police in 1971 and his subsequent conviction under the Obscene Publications Act of 1959 and 1964 infringed his rights of freedom of expression and peaceful enjoyment of his possessions.

In April, 1971, Mr Handyside intended to publish an English version of the Danish book which explains in detail a whole range of problems confronting schoolchildren from homework to sex and drugs. However, before publication numerous copies of the book were seized by the police and Mr Handyside was fined by the Lambeth magistrates court.

His appeal against conviction was dismissed by the Inner London Quarter Sessions in October, 1971, the court having found that the book had a tendency to "deprave and corrupt a significant proportion of the children likely to read it".

Mr Handyside lodged a complaint in April, 1972, against Britain with the European Commission of Human Rights which, after investigating the facts, recently referred the case to the court. The Commission's report remains confidential for the present pending the opening of the court's hearings.



Mr Wilson sitting in fraternal proximity to Mr Gylfi Gisslason, leader of the Icelandic Social Democrats, during the Eismore conference. The cod war was not on the agenda.

Socialists split on cooperation with communists

From Geoffrey Dodd

Eismore, Jan 19

The leaders of 19 European socialist and social democratic parties split today on the question of cooperation with the communists in their countries.

On the closing day of their conference here, the arguments for continued cooperation—the view generally taken by the delegates from southern countries—were voiced by M. François Mitterrand, of France.

He asked his colleagues to consider the political realities. "There are countries where the problem does not arise," he continued. "Where it exists, socialists had to continue to cooperate while maintaining their objective of preserving

and increasing democratic freedoms and rights."

The contradiction which some people saw in this dual effort was one about which French Socialists "preferred not to think". Rather, he said, they should concentrate their efforts on elevating the status of workers.

Mitterrand said that an important factor was the critical attitude towards the Soviet Union which the communist parties in some countries had shown lately.

Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, put the opposing case. The approach taken to communism intensifies would inevitably influence the

view taken of international affairs, he said. Furthermore it would influence the views taken by socialist parties in other countries.

Herr Schmidt gave a warning that cooperation with communists would lead to "an inability to meet commitments to the Atlantic Alliance".

The meeting as a whole produced few results, but rather yielded a series of statements of positions which will be taken up at later political meetings in Europe. Discussion was limited and Mr Wilson, the British Prime Minister, struck a responsive chord when he began his statement on the problems of unemployment and inflation by remarking that there was as

least one current major growth industry—international conferences.

Discussing the European economy as a whole, he said: "The objective must be growth that is steady and lasting and assured. In terms of output, there are now clear signs that the corner has been turned and the long haul back to full capacity working has begun."

The parties agreed on the need for greater contact and coordination of their international policies and for widening their approach to parties outside Europe. On Sunday they agreed to increase their aid to the Portuguese Socialist Party, and extend help to Spanish socialists as well.

Card-index
case
against Fiat
postponed

From Our Own Correspondent

Rome, Jan 19

The long awaited prosecution of Fiat officials for allegedly card-indexing its workers with a view to political discrimination opened today but was immediately adjourned indefinitely.

Counsel for seven of the 51 accused, including the principal figure in the alleged security arrangements, produced medical certificates asserting that their clients were not well enough to appear. The public prosecutor suggested accepting two of the seven medical certificates and declaring the other five defendants in contempt of court.

The charges include allegations of corruption against leading figures in the Fiat organisation, among them a former managing director, for authorising payments to Carabinieri and police officers in exchange for information about people employed by Fiat or applying to work there.

The case goes back to a trial in 1971 when a former employee of Fiat claimed that he had been dismissed wrongfully. During his trial he said that he had been employed by a section called "general services". Further investigation unearthed the basis of the allegations for the trial which should have taken place today.

The Fiat officials were expected to argue that their investigations were necessary because of the firm's military contracts.

w sides with sect after
ents' rescue effort

Richard Wigg

Jan 19

Police commissioners at the home of a middle-aged couple at the weekend to release their old daughter and let her go to the religious sect from she has chosen to

ther with 15 other like-parents, the father and of Mlle Marie-Christiane went on Saturday to overed Manor", a sumptuous property at St Germain d'Or, a Lyons suburb, a local headquarters of, and forcibly carried

alleged that their daughter used to teach handicapped children, had been asked by the followers of the young Moon, a 56-year-old and founder of the self-Association for the United World Christianity", seven "houses" in and claims 1,000 young rs in this country.

police call, in a country young people now strain at the age of 18, was at the of the sect acting fully French law. But it has dramatically the controversy and the sect which is active in France for year.

groups of young adults similarly abandoned homes in Brittany last local parents' organisations were formed to try to further "victims" and oman Catholic Church, Cardinal Guyon, Arch-

bishop of Rennes, condemned the sect as "anti-Christian".

Subsequently, Cardinal Marty, Archbishop of Paris, asserted that the sect was "a menace for the liberty of conscience and for the good faith of the young".

An inquiry was opened by the Ministry of the Interior into the sect's activities but no action has followed for it would appear perfectly legal.

The parents of Mlle Amadeo arrived at the "Flowered Manor" where some 10 young people live, just as their daughter was telling reporters that she had chosen her new way of life in complete freedom. Her parents alleged, however, that she had been actually changed by the life led by the community and they had intended to submit her to medical treatment if they could have kept her at home.

Cardinal Marty declared recently that the sect, which began to propagate in Asia in the 1950s, was "dangerous" because it submitted young people "to heavy doses of indoctrination, without respecting liberty".

The sect is run in France by M. René Blanchard, a 35-year-old former seminarian. According to reports here, the sect submits its young followers to a rigorous communal life with intense sessions of prayer and instruction. It insists they break with their families, and prepare themselves for the coming re-Christianization of the whole world. Sun Myung Moon lives in the United States.

en bombs
lode in
h Portugal

Jan 19.—Seven bombs d in north Portugal to the political parties behind their proposals for civilian power in the military Council.

police said bombs d a building housing a list Party headquarters a do Castelo; two cars homes owned by left-Viscu; the home of a munist in Bragança; home of a leftist in irso.

party proposals were up in response to a ered by the military to parties a bigger say in ent.

Pakistan officer
admits he
brought in drug

Stockholm, Jan 19.—A Pakistani Air Force lieutenant has admitted bringing into Sweden two suitcases full of hashish seized on Thursday night from a Pakistan transport aircraft, police said today.

The lieutenant, aged 30, said that the suitcase was entrusted to him in Saudi Arabia, but that he was unaware it contained 40 lbs of narcotics. He knew nothing of the second suitcase containing about 44lb of hashish.

An investigating magistrate was continuing investigation of 16 officers and four airmen. He must decide by tomorrow whether to charge any of them.

—Agence France-Presse.

ay in fitting 'lorry spies'
be queried by EEC

Our Own Correspondent

Jan 19

European Community is to open legal proceedings against the British for failing to implement Community measures to monitor the work of lorry drivers. Similar measures are expected to be against the other new to the EEC, Ireland and mark.

ay are unlikely to be before the European Justice in Luxembourg is because EEC in Brussels expect all to explain that every intention of their legal obligations is possible.

rs to the three states, mission is expected to they have failed to t EEC rules making llation of tachographs bs of new lorries obli on the beginning of r. The tachograph, s been dubbed "the e cab" by suspicious vers, measures speed, ace, non-driving and ds.

the terms of Article Treaty of Rome, any

member state which has failed to fulfil a treaty obligation, is given a month's grace to submit its observations. The Commission then decides whether or not further action is required.

All three countries have made it clear that they have no fundamental objections to the installation of tachographs, but have pleaded for more time to consult manufacturers and trade unions. The British have also blamed the EEC referendum for their slowness in preparing for the January 1 deadline.

Only the Irish specifically requested a delay which was rejected by the Commission last month. The British and the Danes were apparently given private assurances by the Commission that a court case would be avoided. If they showed their willingness to act as soon as possible.

But all three newcomers were granted a breathing space of at least six months for introducing new EEC restrictions on the hours worked by lorry drivers. This released them from their legal obligations to reduce driving hours from 10 to 8 a day from the beginning of the year.

ON FRIDAY, THERE WAS
A DEBATE IN THE
HOUSE OF COMMONS ON
SMOKING AND HEALTH.

THE MINISTER OF STATE
(HEALTH) ASKED FOR
A STEADY REDUCTION IN
CIGARETTES OF:-

1. TAR YIELD

2. CARBON MONOXIDE

3. NICOTINE

THE SILK CUT RANGE
IS ALREADY:-

*1. LOW IN TAR (as defined by H.M. Government)

*2. LOW IN CARBON MONOXIDE

*3. LOW IN NICOTINE (as defined by H.M. Government)

*Silk Cut has done all this through its special ventilated filter system, combined with specially selected tobaccos.

SILK
CUT

The mild cigarette.

LOW TAR As defined by H.M. Government
EVERY PACKET CARRIES A GOVERNMENT HEALTH WARNING

OVERSEAS

MPLA spokesman rules out plan for a government of national unity to end Angola war

From Nicholas Ashford
Luanda, Jan 19

The Marxist-orientated Popular Movement (MPLA) is pressing for an all-out victory against the two rival nationalist movements in the Angolan civil war. There will be no compromise between it and either the National Front (FNLA) or the Union for Total Independence (Unita).

This was made clear in an interview today with Senhor Joao Filipe Martins, the minister of information of the People's Republic of Angola (MPLA). He said: "We have always stated that the FNLA and Unita are enemies of the people. There is only one movement in Angola and that is the MPLA."

The minister said the movement's aim in the north was to drive the FNLA into Zaire, an objective which, according to the latest military reports from the area, it has already virtually achieved.

In the south, he added, the MPLA would continue its advance until it had pushed Unita and its South African allies out of the country. "We are going to take Nova Lisboa, Benguela and Lobito. Once we have taken these towns, Unita will be finished."

Senator Martins dismissed the proposal, supported by half the members of the Organisation of African Unity at last week's

Addis Ababa summit as well as by many Western Countries, that a government of national unity should be created between the three movements. The MPLA could not be expected to collaborate with groups being backed by Zaire and South Africa.

The minister was confident that the MPLA's Soviet and Cuban backers would continue to provide sufficient military support and to meet any military escalation the opposing side might attempt. Although no firm assurances had been given to the MPLA, he pointed out that the communist states had backed the North Vietnamese during years of fighting and would behave similarly towards the MPLA.

How long the conflict was likely to last "depends on the United States as the United States is involved in the war in Angola". He accused Washington of operating an economic boycott against the Luanda regime. He cited the closure of Gulf Oil's operations in Cabinda and America's refusal to supply two Boeing 747s to Angola "even though we have already paid for these planes". He claimed that the United States was in possession of about 150,000, largely royal, rifles from the Cabinda fields, which rightfully belonged to Angola.

A forecast that the MPLA will mop up the last remnants

of FNLA opposition within about two weeks was made today by Commander "Juji" Julio de Almeida, the MPLA's official military spokesman.

MPLA forces were continuing to advance towards San Antonio do Zaire and Sao Salvador and also on the town on Maqueto do Zombo on the main road from Kinshasa, the capital of Zaire, to Angola. This road is used for transporting military equipment from Zaire to the FNLA.

In the south, he said the main battle line was along the Quere river, which runs east from the port of Novo Redondo, still in Unita hands. Although the MPLA was advancing on this front, its progress had been slowed because Unita and the South Africans had been blowing up bridges as they fell back. Significantly, a Soviet cargo ship in Luanda harbour has been unloading amphibious craft and bridge-building equipment during the past few days.

Commander de Almeida said the MPLA forces were facing about 2,500 South African troops on this front. He claimed the South Africans had been using 130mm cannon, 120mm mortars as well as Panhard armoured cars equipped with 90mm guns. Most of the fighting had been done by South Africans rather than Unita, he said.

Lebanese students blame the President

From Our Correspondent
Cairo, Jan 19

More than 200 Lebanese students today occupied their Cairo embassy in protest against the civil war in Lebanon and the resignation of Mr Rashid Karami, the Prime Minister. They later left peacefully after explaining their views to Mr Muhammad Sabra, the Ambassador.

The sit-in took place against intensifying armed conflict in Lebanon between rightists and leftists. The students issued a statement in which they said they held President Suleiman Frangieh responsible for the explosive situation in the country. They condemned the intervention of the Lebanese Army at the Phalangists' side against the Palestinians and leftist factions.

The statement said the sit-in was in protest against "murders, massacres and sabotage perpetrated in Lebanon by Phalangist and National Liberal Party gangs. Both are carrying out a conspiracy against Lebanon's unity, the Palestinian resistance movement and the Arabs at large."

Lebanese developments, including the resignation of Mr Karami, were seen as a move which did his best to resolve the conflict, cause deep concern in Cairo. Last night, a Cabinet statement denounced "irresponsible acts by some Phalangist elements who have been dragging the Lebanese Army into the conflict against the Palestinians".

It called for a constructive dialogue between the warring factions and emphasized the importance of the Palestinian presence in Lebanon. Observers believed that this thinly-veiled warning against any attempts to liquidate the Palestinian presence.

The Cabinet statement said: "Egypt reaffirms that the Palestinian presence in Lebanon is an extension to the Palestinian struggle for the liberation of their nation, which pledged to consolidate and strengthen it until the Palestinian people recover their legitimate rights."

Mr Ismail Fahmy, the Foreign Minister, told the People's Assembly that Egypt was prepared to mediate to end the Lebanese conflict; but he added that any individual or collective Arab action should be preceded by a ceasefire and Lebanon's acceptance of the UN resolution.

Observers believed that if Egypt's good offices were accepted, it would first urge all Lebanese factions to sit together and try to settle their differences, including a reform of the constitution and a system which President Sadat said was wrong.

Once the Lebanese settled their differences, which should include an accepted Government formula, they should then turn to the Lebanese civil war. Egypt maintained this should be done without interference from any other power, Arab or non-Arab.

President Sadat was holding private consultations with his senior aides on the Lebanon crisis. He instructed Mr Lutfi Metwalli, the Egyptian Ambassador in Beirut, whom he recalled to report on developments, to return to his post with Lebanese leaders in an attempt to end the civil war.

Our Jerusalem Correspondent writes: Mr Shimon Peres, the Israeli Defence Minister, gave a warning today that if Syria intervened in the Lebanese fighting, Israel would have to take defensive measures to ensure its security. His brief comment was quoted by Israel radio.

Newspapers earlier had given prominence to reports that the United States had ordered the Lebanese Army (PLA) to cross the Lebanon from Syria. The reports, quoting only "authoritative sources", said the troops had not been actively engaged in the fighting and were assumed not to be numerically strong enough to sway the balance in the civil war; but the papers speculated that the move might pre-empt direct Syrian intervention.

The reports noted that two PLA brigades were trained by the Syrian Army, and recalled that in September, 1970, PLA soldiers had fought the Jordanian Army in the Yarmouk guerrilla war. The military correspondent of the Reuters news agency said Syria had avoided direct military intervention in Lebanon because it wanted to keep its role as mediator. It was also believed to have been deterred by the threat of a counter move by Israel.



A solemn moment at Lloyd's yesterday when the Lutine bell was struck to announce the loss of a ship for only the second time since 1947.

Lutine bell tolls for biggest loss in shipwreck history

By Philip Howard

The Lutine bell at Lloyd's yesterday confirmed that the insurers accept the loss of the supertanker *Berge Isara*.

The thousands of underwriters, who had bought a share in its insurance, will now set about collecting the money and sending it to the owners of the ship, *Sig Bergesen D.V.* of Oslo. They say that it will be the most expensive maritime claim in the history of shipwrecks.

The *Berge Isara* (227,556 tons), built to carry oil or dry cargo, was en route with 188,000 tons of iron ore from Brazil to Japan, where it was due to arrive on January 5.

About 20 per cent of the insurance cover for the hull and machinery, amounting to more than £5m, is carried by underwriters in London, either with Lloyd's or the insurance company of the *Berge Isara* in 1963, and the death of Sir Winston Churchill in 1965.

It is the ship's bell of HMS *Lutine*, a captured French warship, recommissioned by the British Navy. The bell was left in the Holland for October, 1799, with bullion and specie to the value of some £500,000. That same night it was wrecked on a sandbank off the Zuyder Zee with the loss of every soul on board, save one who died as soon as rescued.

It was a day as black as yesterday for Lloyd's underwriters.

seems probable, the *Berge Isara* has gone to the bottom of the Mindanao Trench six miles down, one of the deepest chasms in the ocean floor, it may have left only unrecognisable fragments behind.

The jubilant ceremony of the bell tolling that the ship has been lost, confirmed as having been lost, Lloyd's yesterday accepted the recovery of the two survivors as confirmation of the loss. Lloyd's official said: "A hoax has been discounted. Firm news has been received that the vessel has sunk. If the survivors' story had been at all doubtful or garbled, the bell would not have been rung."

The knell for the *Berge Isara* was only the second time in nearly 30 years that the Lutine bell has been struck once for a lost ship, though there were ceremonial strikes to signal the death of President Kennedy in 1963, and the death of Sir Winston Churchill in 1965.

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Editors deny having spies on their staffs

By Roger Berthoud

With more or less one voice, the editors of Britain's national newspapers yesterday denied that they knowingly employed any foreign correspondents who also served as intelligence agencies.

The charge was made in a letter, printed in *The Times* yesterday, from Mr Bernard Weather, London correspondent of the *Washington Post*. He alleged that "the lives of foreign correspondents are endangered by editors who permit or encourage them to serve two masters, a newspaper and an intelligence agency."

There was general agreement among the editors to whom *The Observer* was sent, that it was impossible to vouch for the purity of every single "stringer" (non-staff correspondent) in every capital around the world. It was agreed, however, that it was easy to arrange any form of "positive vetting", as Mr Freddie Fisher, editor of the *Financial Times*, pointed out. "But we do go to considerable trouble to satisfy ourselves that it is possible that such things do not arise," he said.

"I have never known of anyone employed by this newspaper (as a staff correspondent) who has been an agent either for this country or a foreign power," Mr Fisher said.

Mr William Rees-Mogg, editor of *The Times*, commented: "No one on the staff of *The Times* is permitted, let alone encouraged, to serve an intelligence agency, and I have never met any editor who has asked a paper who I believe would have permitted his staff to engage in intelligence work." *The Sunday Times* printed a similar assurance in its leader column.

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working in Beirut as the correspondent of *The Observer* and *The Economist* when he vanished to the safety of the Soviet Union.

Mr Donald Tyerman, who was then editor of *The Economist*, recalled yesterday that Philby had been a "third man" in the Burgess and Maclean case, and had been publicly exonerated (in November, 1955) in the Commons by Mr Macmillan, then Foreign Secretary.

After that a number of his friends approached *The Economist* and said he wanted a job in the Middle East to carry on his father's business interests. Simultaneously *The Observer* was in touch and said we could make a joint spring arrangement. Although we had been asked by old friends, *The Observer* had been asked to cover for young so-and-so going off to the Middle East. Mr Tyerman said he would not do it.

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Muslim plea to Premier of Lebanon

Continued from page 1

In contrast with the jointness of the victorious militia in Karantina, there was high tension at the Phalangist headquarters on the other side of the port. Guards, who normally lounge at the gateway, were very jittery and when they came to the door they did so at the run for fear of a fresh mortar attack.

While the fighting continued, Lebanon's Muslim leaders met in secret to decide whether to advise Mr Rashid Karami, the Prime Minister to remain in office. Mr Karami, a Muslim, told President Suleiman Frangieh last night that he was resigning in protest against the Karantina offensive and the earlier use of Air Force jets against the town.

But President Frangieh, a Christian, was said to have rejected the resignation. Mr Karami left to the Muslim leadership the question of whether he should insist on resigning or remain in office in exchange for a second agreement to limit the use of the Muslim community.

Mr Saeb Salam, the former Prime Minister, told the press after the meeting that they had decided to back Mr Karami but it was unclear whether this meant that Muslim leaders supported the resignation or some other attitude that Mr Karami might have adopted.

At stake is whether Muslims and Christians can continue to share the government of the country or whether, after nine months of civil war, the gulf between the two communities is too wide to be bridged within the existing constitutional framework.—Reuters.

Dr Kissinger leaves for Moscow talks

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, Jan 19

Dr Henry Kissinger, the American Secretary of State, sets out for Moscow this evening to discuss strategic arms limitation with the Russians. On the way, he will spend four hours in Copenhagen, reviewing the state of Europe with Mr Anker Jorgensen, the Danish Prime Minister, who has been presiding over a meeting of the Second International.

The democratic Socialists have been discussing relations between their parties and Communist parties in various European countries, a topic of great interest to Dr Kissinger. He will doubtless want to know what conclusions, if any, were reached.

The Secretary of State returns later this week by way of Brussels, where he will be able to brief America's Nato allies on his Moscow talks, and Madrid, where he will be able to see for himself the way the Spaniards are coping in a world without General Franco.

Both the United States and Soviet Governments hope that the progress towards a second permanent arms limitation agreement will be made this week. The Salt 1 agreement, signed in Moscow in 1972, and the Vladivostok addendum, signed last in 1974, were both temporary.

What has held up agreement for the past year has been the American Cruise missile and the Russian Backfire bomber. The strategic arms limitation talks have been concerned with ballistic missiles, but the cruise missile and the Backfire bomber have been a sticking point.

The Backfire (the name is American) has a range sufficient to fly from the Soviet Union to drop its load anywhere in the United States. They take refuge in Cuba. The Americans say that it is therefore a strategic weapon, and the Russians deny it.

The compromise towards which both sides have been slowly moving is to agree to limit the numbers and capability of both the Cruise missiles and the Backfire bomber.

British envoy returning from Argentina

From Jane Monahan
Buenos Aires, Jan 19

Mr Derrick Ashe, the British Ambassador to Argentina, leaves for London today. He has been recalled by Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, after a request from the Argentine Government for the return of the British Ambassador to Argentina.

Mr Ashe expects to return to Buenos Aires. His wife and daughter are staying behind. Mr John Shakespeare will be in Charge d'Affaires during Mr Ashe's absence.

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Arms seizures as Turkish violence goes on

Ankara, Jan 19.—Police seized automatic pistols and ammunition in raids on political activists today and fought hand-to-hand battles with leftists and rightists. The police's political violence showed no sign of abating.

Three policemen and five students were injured when police tried to stop a demonstration in Ankara, near the city of Ankara reported an attack by some 50 left-wing high school pupils wielding clubs and throwing stones, according to Turkish news agencies.

In the eastern city of Urfa, police broke up a brawl between members of a left-wing teachers' trade union and rightists, and detained seven people. Police in the southern city of Adana reported raiding a bus bound for Ankara and seizing two people carrying seven Czech-made automatic pistols, 650 rounds, 14 spare magazines and about 21,500 lire (£700).—Reuters.

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Nigerian workers 'shot in Equatorial Guinea'

Lagos, Jan 19.—Nigeria, angered at what it calls barbaric treatment of its plantation workers in Equatorial Guinea, has flown about 9,500 of them home in a mass evacuation. But a Nigerian journalist estimated today that 25,000 others are still waiting to leave.

The Lagos Government said that at least 11 Nigerian workers were shot by soldiers near the embassy in Malabo on January 7.

A correspondent of the Nigerian newspaper, the *Calabar Sunday Chronicle*, who made a clandestine visit to Equatorial Guinea, said that some of those awaiting evacuation from Malabo port were in Equatorial Guinea under a long-standing labour treaty. A Nigerian Embassy official had already sent their families and belongings home.

Malabo's main market was quiet because most of the Nigerian traders had left, the correspondent said.

The reported shooting of workers occurred when Nigerians tried to make for an evacuation ship in Malabo port and the militia responded with automatic weapons and petrol bombs, one refugee told the *Calabar Daily Star*.

A statement four days ago by the Nigerian External Affairs Ministry said that any nationals who failed to take advantage of the Government's free transport facilities would be living in Equatorial Guinea at their own risk.

A Nigerian Government statement on January 11 said that diplomatic pressures applied in the past had proved insufficient to avoid a recurrence of beatings and killings involving its nationals. The Malabo embassy incident was "the gravest to date in the unbroken chain of provocation and humiliations meted out to Nigerians in Equatorial Guinea".—Reuters.

The exact location of two anchorages used extensively by the Soviet Mediterranean fleet very close to Crete but in international waters, was disclosed in the Greek press today.

Their existence "to the east and west of Crete" was confirmed by Mr Evangelos Averoff, the Greek Defence Minister, during a debate in Parliament last week. The minister was answering Opposition criticism about the continued presence of American installations and bases in Crete.

One of the anchorages south of the island of Kythira has been used by the Soviet fleet for at least a decade. The Athens daily *Nea*, which published aerial photographs to substantiate its report today, said that Soviet warships were

Greek press reveals site of Soviet anchorages

From Our Correspondent
Athens, Jan 19

The exact location of two anchorages used extensively by the Soviet Mediterranean fleet very close to Crete but in international waters, was disclosed in the Greek press today.

Dr Cassidy describes electric shock torture and prison 'sex house'

Dr Cassidy described as "totally false" a reported allegation by a Chilean woman that she had at one time belonged to a Marxist underground organization.

Former POWs visit bridge on 'River Kwai'

on 'River Kwai'

Bangkok, Jan 19—A group of British former prisoners of war today revisited the site of the bridge over the River Kwai, which they helped to build as captives of the Japanese in 1943. The film *Bridge on the River Kwai* was based on this wartime episode. The film, which was released in 1957, included some war widows, who planned to spend three days at the bridge, which now replaces the wartime one, near the town of Kanchanaburi, 30 miles west of here.

They will visit the area's two

ry 22nd at 2.30 p.m.: The Carvers, Work & Mining
ry 22nd at 11 a.m. Antique & Modern Silver and Plate.
ry 22nd at 2.30 p.m.: Jewellery, Bijouterie and Objects
ry: Saturday 24th, 6-1 and Monday 26th, 10-5.
Color Catalogues: 60p (70p by post) from Fine Art Depart-
ment, Somerset House (2081).
-bud 1994. Members of SOFAA.

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PROPERTY
also on page 16

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One for
all, or all for
nothing

the country without the right
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has invested in them"). Pol-
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the contrary, is a profession
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under the control of people who
wished it to go in a very
different direction from that in
which I had been trying to
steer it since its inception.
There was no suggestion that
the new path was in any way

Occasionally, individuals in initiative in these matters are to be applauded, however, it is likely it is to lead to effective action. Mr. Alan Wachsman, for instance, has been assisting the Red Cross to pay the special National Insurance levy imposed on the self-employed. He points out that the self-employed are not covered by most of the provisions of National Insurance (they get neither unemployment nor sickness benefit, nor are they even entitled, unlike everybody else,

Britain, to free medical treatment while travelling in most of the foreign countries; and which our NHS has a reciprocal agreement), and therefore concludes, correctly, that the increased demand adds impudence to fraud, and refuses to pay it. (And the might have added that Lady Castle would not dare to try swindling the members of a trades union in this fashion, and for good measure that she, along with all other members of Parliament, has taken good care to evade the levy altogether by a trick as fraudulent as the levy

itself—that is, the device of reclassifying members of the Communist Party as "Non-Communist" who do not agree with his argument and share his feelings and if, in due course, he should be led off to prison with gyres upon gyres, the writer shall be willing to read "Release the Chertsey One" though as the Hammer of Chertsey Cross I regret that I am unable to join him in his defiance of the forces of the law that exist between the village Bampton on the one hand and the professionally-directed mass campaign by a group with no common interest and the political aims of the village Bampton. I wishers felt on the other, there is nothing but a wilderness in which the wind bears away many fond hopes, and where, in the distance, the Carwen hills are visible as it depicts the autumn sky.

The rain it raineth on the just
And also on the unjust fellows;
But chiefly on the just,
 because
The unjust steals the just's
 umbrella.

In our pluralist society the victims of the upper and neither millionstons suffer from a handicap that is almost insurmountable and many eventually succumb to fatal. Although they are all victims, they are not *only* victims, but many other things, some of which occupy much more of their thoughts and lives and feelings than does their function as sacrifice. When the pressures of them grow so great that each individual's share is

the collective suffering is greater than all the rest of his activities, the pressure will achieve what pressure is notorious for: that is, the welding of the material under pressure into a single, solid block. When that day comes, the block will be very heavy and equipped with sharp edges, and anywhere it falls on will experience a sudden and intense wish that it had not. But that day is not yet.

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All the ingredients seem present for a classic decolonization dispute of the kind Africa has seen in the Congo, Spanish Sahara and Angola.

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Still a thriving trade in freedom

Unmappable
The other day I mentioned British Rail's unsuccessful attempt to frighten roosting starlings from Temple Meads station, Bristol, by banging on the roof. This has reminded a reader of a sparrow's nest he saw at a main line station, wedged between the train arrival bell and the overhanging edge of the platform roof. The loudly ringing bell shook the nest every few minutes, but

both fledglings and parents were unconcerned by the noise. He surmises that they are a new breed of super-sparrows impervious to noise and thus perfectly conditioned for life

nity land surplus account
that the deficit on that account
can be carried forward to the
next financial year."

PHS

down: "The following ~~group~~
of staff must not, therefore,
be discriminated against: ~~men~~
women, married men, married
women, married persons, single
men, single women." The
narrows the field, certainly.

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DEFENCE TO THE FOREFRONT

mandating a further sacrifice in defence spending in 1977-80, Mr Healey performed a service for the chiefs of staff might be end be grateful. He has defence once more to the out of public debate, turns share of the country's resources into a major policy. The appointment of Mr Healey to the shadow portfolio, led by Mrs Thatcher's speech at Kensington Hall yesterday indicates the Opposition intend to take that way. The indications that Mr Mason, Secretary of State for Defence, no mean feat of his cause, has been something of a y in Cabinet by restricting projected cuts in his budget level which is at least feasible. Nevertheless the attention to regard defence as a ritual lamb which can be slaughtered at least backed without too much fuss, has proved to be a success. Conservative as Labour. The fight which now being mounted to reverse the rump, is timely and me.

Thatcher points out that Soviet Union has quadrupled its nuclear submarine force in the past ten years and is building at the rate of one

nuclear submarine a month. Its navy, she argues, is not designed for self-defence. We do not have to imagine nuclear war or even conventional war in order to see how such a force could be used for political purposes. To place her speech in perspective, it should be added that approximate parity at present exists between East and West and has done so for several years. Military leaders in the West must formulate their plans upon worst-case assumptions. There are two runners in the race to build up to point to the continuing build-up in Soviet defence is not to postulate an Eastern thrust for Armageddon. Nevertheless there has been complacency in the West, most recently manifested perhaps by the fashionable disclosure of names in the CIA and the general attack on that organization. Without entering into the moral or political arguments, the trend indicates a general feeling in the West that all is well and evermore will be so—despite the nagging doubts which have been fostered by recent events.

The event which deserves most attention and to which Mrs Thatcher very properly refers, is the civil war in Angola—where according to one report from Washington the Soviet Union has spent about £100m on the MPLA during the past nine months and

flowed in up to 7,000 Cuban troops. Mrs Thatcher does not make it clear what exactly the West should do about Angola, beyond arguing for the extension of Nato interests beyond the Tropic of Cancer. But the readiness of the Russians to fish in such distant troubled waters is an uneasy reminder of a facet of Soviet foreign policy which belies the spirit, if not the substance, of détente. Mrs Thatcher's general concern will be welcome among British Forces Germany, whom she visits on Thursday. The Russian superiority in manpower, aircraft and tanks which she demonstrates can be countered by other statistics pointing to a Nato advantage in quality if not in quantity—and indeed to an overall superiority in certain weapon systems. On the other hand the situation does not allow for complacency in the West.

Even after the last Defence Review which planned a cut of £4,700m in the defence budget over ten years, the services were glumly predicting worse to come. Their principal worry was that no political party seemed to care sufficiently to stop it happening. In marshalling his forces in response to the Treasury's latest threats the Opposition are suggesting that the time has come to stand firm. Defence might now be taken seriously once more.

FROM FARMER TO SON

minister who wound up the reading debate on Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill let it be known that could smile on an initiative the back benches to provide succession to agricultural lands by near relatives. A Labour and Plaid Cymru members promptly tabled a clause for that purpose, at a provision already in Scotland. It will be considered by the standing committee of the Bill later this month. The situation has its ironies. Labour MPs seeking to do something like an hereditary right to an occupation. And Conservative MPs (not of them—some from agricultural constituencies are sympathetic to the objective of the new) disinclined to extend to farmers the argument that they pursue so vigorously in case of freehold farmers by capital taxes: that the hard of husbandry will suffer cannot pass on his business to his heir. But those are the politicians. More a point is to try to gauge at outset what the practical effect of such a measure would

the order if the applicant has been actively working the farm for three years or is "by reason of age and in all other respects a fit and proper person" to hold the tenancy, subject to the usual qualification about "greater hardship" and "fair and reasonable in all the circumstances". The right is therefore exercisable at the discretion of the tribunal, and the clause gives the tribunal a wider discretion in favour of the applicant than is given under the Scottish statute.

Under the present laws of tenure an heir who has an active interest in the farm can generally expect to be granted a lease himself if he is reasonably competent. But not always. There are plenty of hard cases and some harsh ones. Also, uncertainty about the future of the tenancy may sometimes affect a tenant family's willingness to commit investment and make improvements. That is the case for going at least some way towards securing succession to farm leases.

It is argued against the proposal that it would accelerate the decline in the proportion of rented holdings and might cause the supply of new tenancies almost to dry up; that this would be a blow to prospective farmers lacking the capital to buy land (and it is rare indeed to have money to lay out for land as well as for the now hugely inflated requirement of tenant's capital); that this would deny to the agricultural industry a flow of keen and capable

entrants; that standards of husbandry would fall if qualification for a tenancy in future is to be kinship not superior competence; that institutional investment in farming would fall away; that the narrowed market in farms to let would drive up the level of agricultural rents generally.

How are these claims and counter-claims to be assessed? With most social legislation there is no knowing whether it will have the effect intended by its authors. Although plenty of certitude is expressed, little certainty can be had. The only way of finding out is to try it. But in this case the legislators are not condemned to work in the usual darkness, since a measure similar to the one proposed has been in force in Scotland from 1949 to 1958 and again since 1958 (the interlude marking repeal by a Conservative government).

It has been in force long enough for conclusions to be drawn from an objective study, which would have to take account of any specific differences of Scottish agriculture and tenure, as well as other variables affecting investment, productivity, and relative changes between types of tenure. Parliament has no business to extend the provision to England and Wales without the benefit of a close examination of the Scottish experience; and if the Minister of Agriculture is sympathetic to extension, the first thing he should do is put that study in hand.

SPECIAL PLEADING OR SPECIAL CASE?

ow's financial plight has at a particularly embarrassing moment for the Government. It happens there will be a political struggle for the future of Scotland. It is Glasgow, where Labour and the Scottish National Party, who have yet a Glasgow seat at a general election, have to make a breakthrough if they are to win a lasting position. It is from here that the new independent Scottish Labour Party draws support. Anything that sows dissatisfaction in Glasgow is therefore of far more local importance, and it is liable that a severe cut in services or a massive rise in rates would be a gift to the who win votes from protest. It is from conviction, there must be a strong argument for the Secretary of State to offer special help to Glasgow today. But he would be wrong to do so on purely local grounds. That might be some temporary relief to a Government in Scotland,

but it would do so at the expense of outraging opinion in a number of English cities where opinion is already sceptical enough of the devolution proposals which it tends to regard as the payment of Danegeld to avaricious Scots and Welsh. Moreover, if the Government were to succumb to political blackmail in the case of Glasgow they would find it infinitely harder to impose the necessary restraint on other authorities.

Before considering special assistance for Glasgow the Government would first have to satisfy themselves that the city is indeed faced with the stark choice that the district council suggests. If that is found to be so, such help could be justified only if it could be shown that Glasgow's needs are much greater than those of other large cities in the United Kingdom and that the city has done all that could reasonably be asked to put its own affairs in order. The first of these two conditions should not present much difficulty. Social deprivation has for years been worse in Glasgow than in other cities. Conditions in west central Scotland present

the greatest collective social problem in the United Kingdom. Nor surprisingly, Glasgow has a relatively high debt burden, which means that the problems of the fathers are multiplied for the sons.

But Glasgow's reputation for efficient municipal management does not stand high. Not enough money may have been available, but not all of that has been spent wisely. Too much, for example, has gone on ambitious and expensive inner road schemes. It is too late to rectify that particular mistake, but the Government should take some satisfying that sufficient economies are being offered in other directions: Glasgow rents, like municipal rents elsewhere in Scotland, have by tradition been low. They cannot be raised much immediately because of the Government ceiling, but an assurance should be sought—in return for any additional help—that they will be raised progressively over a period of years. Government policy permitting. It is in such ways that Glasgow may legitimately be treated as a special case, but not as a special political case.

Working for social work

Sir Derman Christopher, was an interesting coincidence of your leader "Redundant", and Sir Alex Smith's on the role of the polytechnic in the same page of your issue January 2, 1976. I am tempted to write to express my similar to that of both and to doubt the wisdom of a further expansion of polytechnics and diplomas of higher education when the available educational resources have difficulty in meeting the known demands for specific training. The concern of this council is to and consolidate the nationally oriented training of workers in both universities and polytechnics. The present circumstances find it to provide the resources for efficient postgraduate training in this field. The position

of non-graduate courses in polytechnics and further education colleges is even more difficult. Although the courses are in many ways as demanding as the first two years of a degree, they do not recruit students direct from school and their entry requirements are more flexible. Present policies for the financing of courses and students have the unfortunate consequence that colleges may prefer to establish DfPE and degree courses rather than to continue or introduce two-year non-graduate courses. Vocational courses in the social work field are handicapped in several ways. They necessarily contain a large element of supervised social work practice, the organization and teaching of which is expensive in terms of college resources; the Houghton report on teachers' salaries in further education has made it financially more rewarding to teach in a degree course; the system of grants to students gives priority awards to degree and DfPE students, but grants for social work courses which do not also lead to a degree are

made at the local authority's discretion. It is ironic that just as serious attempts are being made by the Government to forecast the training needs of the social services, other public policies on the whole penalize any vocational training that cannot readily fit the requirements laid down for degrees. Sir Alex Smith's letter however can be read as some assurance that the polytechnics will continue to follow their original guidelines, which laid emphasis on providing a range of relevant advanced courses, not simply degree courses. It is imperative that polytechnics should be supported in this resolve, and that they should not find themselves under greater financial pressure because they are meeting specific national needs rather than adding to the supply of general higher education. Yours faithfully, DERMAN CHRISTOPHERSON, Chairman, Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work, Clifton House, Clifton Road, NW1.

Restrictions on Ulster troops

From Lieut-Colonel J. C. Wakerley (Redd) Sir, If your Special Correspondent (January 16) is right and the SAS are to be ordered to South Armagh to kill terrorists (this I believe), I very much hope that an earlier report that the SAS are to operate under the same yellow card rules as apply to all other soldiers in the province is wrong. Otherwise, not only will they fail, but we shall have to face the spectacle of another spate of prosecutions of soldiers in Northern Ireland in which, to the delight of our enemies and the amazement of all reasonable people, we parade the law-enforcers before the same courts and on the same charges as the terrorists themselves.

When I served in Northern Ireland, the yellow card was extremely restrictive of the circumstances in which soldiers were permitted to open fire. Broadly, it was calculated to ensure that no-one would be shot who was not in the very act of killing or causing serious injury to another, or who was immediately about to do so. It was, of course, based on the concept of the right of any citizen to use reasonable force in self defence, or in the defence of another, and in the prevention of crime.

Such concepts may be fine for dealing with bank robbers in Battersea or even with hijackers at Heathrow. As interpreted in Northern Ireland it is utterly out of place to support an army fighting against a civilian population, and even remotely in sight. It presupposes an inability to act aggressively and a readiness to allow the enemy to strike first. It implies a transfer of initiative to the opposition and an anxiety to disengage from any confrontation. It is a recipe for a bloody battle shorn of the legal protection he needs properly and adequately to utilize his tactical training, harness his military experience and deploy his professional talents.

Regrettably, Sir, it provides no basis for any confidence that the SAS can improve upon your Correspondent's appalling score card of IRA 49 Army 0. Yours faithfully, J. C. WAKERLEY, Assistant Director of Army Legal Services, Headquarters Northern Ireland 1972-1974, January 17.

Seeking cooperation

From Lieut-Colonel Denis Rowan Hamilton Sir, Sir Patrick Macory (January 12) regrets the passing of a Protestant dominated Stormont and a totally sectarian reserve police force (B Specials) do not agree but this is hardly surprising since he lives in Surrey and I in a mixed area of county Down.

He wants his soldiers home and I want a decent place in which my family can grow up. I suppose that it is possible that a totally Protestant government supported by a sufficient number of sterling machine carbines might temporarily force the minority into respectful silence, but the problem will reappear, as it always has, within a few years.

We need a constitution acceptable to all who live here. No one would have believed a few years ago that a very considerable number of Protestants (those contained in Alliance, UPNI and Mr Craig's Unionists) were in broad agreement with the SDLP on the path to the future. If the British people can contain their impatience for a few more years and one or two more elections we shall have a majority in favour of cooperation. I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant, DENIS ROWAN HAMILTON, 15, The Castle, Co Down, January 13.

Violence in rugby

From Mr Derek Jewell Sir, In the many reports on the England-Wales Rugby Union match, I have noticed no comment on one incident in the second half: a penalty awarded against Wales for (presumably) the unsporting behaviour of J. P. R. Williams in refusing to release the ball whilst off his feet. The referee saw he had quickly taken place. Such a penalty, if not unique in international matches, must certainly be a rarity. It was typical of that sad element which is increasingly a feature of rugby. Unfortunately, the match was not as these things go, notably violent, although it was less magnificent and, in the second half, more boring than most reports suggest. Yet the injury list, as reported, was atrocious: apart from the leg and neck injury to the face of J. P. R. Williams himself, there was a broken arm, a dislocated left shoulder, and two sets of five-inch head wounds for England forwards. There was a concussion for the Welsh scrum-half. I observed several examples of fists used in mauls on the referee's blind side; of an (English) forward struck on the head by a Welsh scrum-half; of indiscriminate use of boots in rucks.

My reading of Saturday's other match reports: bawling, a broken leg, and finally a sending off in Richmond's game; four lectures to the players from the referee in the first 20 minutes in Rosslyn Park's; off-the-ball wrestling among forwards in London Welsh's—these from London games alone. The signs of increasing illegal violence in rugby are too plain to be ignored. The game's legislators and its clubs have a duty to combat it. Referees are, thank heaven, less hesitant than they used to be to send off offending players. They should be given every support, and players who wear off more than once should wait a very long time indeed before they are allowed to play again—if, indeed, they should be so allowed. More rigorous regulations for equipment (dangerous boots are currently under scrutiny) are crucial. Above all, clubs must support the rugby authorities. They should keep out of their teams' disciplinary matters, and they, better than anyone else, know who such players are. Yours faithfully, DEREK JEWELL, 25 Spencer Road, East Molesey, Surrey, January 19.

The lessons of a baby's death

From Sir Ronald Gibson

Sir, One must express a deep sympathy with all those concerned in the tragic case of Stephen Meurs. At the same time, there are certain facts which must be faced—not the least of which is the shortage of trained social workers.

But there is a more fundamental cause for these ills which seems so far to have gone unnoticed. It well needs to be brought to public notice. Several of us in general practice have for many years been building up a team of health visitors designed to cover the total care (not just the medical treatment) of the whole patient. To this end doctors, nurses, midwives and health visitors have been working together in groups of the normal to be able to detect the abnormal in child care and development, and having done so, is able to communicate accurately to his senior his feelings of doubt or anxiety.

This, to my mind, is the weakest link in the organizational chain set up to deal with non-accidental injury. It presupposes that an experienced social worker has sufficient knowledge of the normal to be able to detect the abnormal in child care and development, and having done so, is able to communicate accurately to his senior his feelings of doubt or anxiety.

The objection has been raised that there are insufficient staff to enable a senior to see every case. But I maintain that some of the tragic errors and a good deal more of human misery could be averted without any increase in resources if, where the welfare of children is at stake, it were routine for a senior social worker to accompany his junior on a proportion of visits. The training situation would thereby be enhanced, the client would have the benefit of the senior's expertise and, where necessary, skilled intervention: all in no more time than it takes for the junior to face the situation alone, and to the office and report his findings.

Yours faithfully, JOY WEST, 6 Cheyham Way, Cheam, Surrey.

From Dr Sinclair Rogers

Sir, The very moving report published this last week of the tragic events surrounding the death of Steven Meurs in Norfolk highlights an apparently increasing factor which those concerned with children are having to face. That is the sheer range of inhuman and brutal circumstances in which some little children are brought up. As the report states, the local authority workers involved simply could not believe the depth of inhumanity which was expressed.

I refer, in the main, to the affluent Western world where in the absence of the grinding poverty of sadder days there are children dying in the harsh and terrible environment deliberately made by those caring for the children. Whilst for example, bad housing is a problem to many still, recent cases of death by extreme brutality or neglect are to be characterized almost as suburban in which adverse economic factors are not significant. This is true of the case in Brighton, Steven in Norfolk and particularly of the case of the girl Genie who was locked away in an upstairs cupboard in her parents' home in Los Angeles for some twelve years.

The points I wish to make are firstly that not only must the public and the professionals be educated in the range of depths of inhumanity facing some children, not only in terms of baby battering, but also to the edge of death. Secondly, all of us must be encouraged to take an interest in what goes on around us, especially, in life in suburbia.

I have the honour to be your obedient servant, SINCLAIR ROGERS, Ulster College, The Northern Ireland Polytechnic, Jordanstown, Newtownabbey, Co Antrim

Blind visitors to Chelsea

From Mr A. R. Clark

Sir, Lord Snowdon's trenchant letter of January 14 spotlights a very urgent and general problem in our society, and one in which we lag behind other countries. The pioneer workers in blind welfare were chiefly concerned with communication and rightly saw as the first priority the establishment of a system of tactile print. More recently, the deep significance of independent mobility in the broad concept of adaptation has become fully appreciated.

The guide dog enables the blind person to achieve mobility and independence to an unparalleled and at one time undreamt of degree. Precise psychological research has established that this mobility, coupled with the companionship and dependence of the dog partner, effects a threefold increase in the blind person's valuation of himself, and thus makes the burden of the handicap that much more bearable.

In the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association, we spend many months on each dog to achieve a degree of training which will not only secure the safety of guidance necessary for the crowded traffic conditions of today, but will also virtually ensure an acceptable and hygienic standard of canine behaviour when in harness. When blind persons, placing their trust and faith in these animals, are refused admission to public displays, restaurants and hotels, those who do so are relegating the blind persons to the isolation of second-class citizenship, often destroying thereby that repair to personality that has been effected by so much skill, patience and courage. One cannot believe that this is really the desire of the same caring community that so generously provides the funds that enable the work to proceed and reach out to more and more blind citizens each year. Yours sincerely, A. R. CLARK, Director General, The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association, Alexandra House, 113 Uxbridge Road, Ealing, W5.

From Mrs L. M. Wassell Smith Sir, Sadly, there is a vast gap between the desirable and the practical; it is a waste of time debating the moral right of blind people to take their guide dogs into the Chelsea Flower Show when any regular visitor there knows the plain fact that it would be sheer cruelty to animals to allow it; there are just too many people in too confined a

in hospital, nowadays only 40 per cent of newly appointed social workers are trained, and their apprenticeship is of a very different nature.

In medicine, supervision takes place at the bedside, in the casualty and out-patient department, but social work supervision is for the most part office-based, removed from the fraught domestic scene. Which means that, once promoted, the experienced social worker is largely lost to field work and may supervise a case for many months without ever seeing the client.

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Yours faithfully, JOY WEST, 6 Cheyham Way, Cheam, Surrey.

Select committees and Ministers

From Mr Michael Wolff

Sir, Ministers have only themselves to blame for the pickle they are in with the expenditure committee. Having chosen to air their differences over Chrysler in public, they cannot be surprised if Parliament wants to know more. Those who live by the "leak" must be prepared to take the consequences. But that does not validate the doctrine you enunciate (leader, January 14) that a select committee is "entitled to hear from anyone whose testimony they suppose will be relevant". Anyone? Suppose?

On any controversial issue there will be dissenting counsel, first within the government departments concerned and then in Cabinet. But it is the essence of our democracy that ministers take responsibility for the decisions of their departments and that the Cabinet takes collective responsibility for its own decisions. No doubt it would be "relevant" to summon enough civil servants in order to establish that there were departmental differences over a particular issue, or to invite members of the Cabinet to declare which side they supported on a controversial decision and why. But it is nothing to do with democracy or, for that matter, with open government. On the contrary, it is the quickest way to ensure a secretive, presidential style of government. That cannot be in the interests of Parliament. Yours faithfully, MICHAEL WOLFF, 11 Holland Park, W11, January 19.

The cod war

From Mr Walter Clegg, Conservative MP for North Fylde

Sir, Mr Geoffrey Gorer writing to you from Sussex expresses a sense of shame from what he describes as "the antics of the Royal Navy" off Iceland, he complains, too, that we are acting like a school bully (January 15).

That may be the view from Sussex but I can assure you it is very different from that taken in the port of Fleetwood in my constituency and on Humberhead. Fleetwood lands two thirds of its deep-sea catch from the fishing grounds off Iceland and the jobs of some 5,000 people are at stake. The International Court has made it clear that the Icelandic unilateral extension of fishing limits is illegal and in law our fishermen have the right to fish as they are doing at the moment. It is clear that Icelandic gunboats took aggressive action against unarmed trawlers as they were fishing; this is a highly dangerous offence which could kill or maim our fishermen. Who, then, is bullying whom? Surely we are right to protect our fishermen going about their lawful occupations on the high seas and that is the traditional role of the Royal Navy who are now acting in a highly effective dangerous job.

This country and its fishermen are prepared to negotiate with Iceland on the basis of a substantial reduction in the catch. It is Iceland that is refusing to negotiate except on its own terms.

It appears to be the height of fashion to portray the actions of this country in the worst possible light but people, like Mr Gorer might at least take the trouble to find out the fact that his fellow-countrymen could be deprived of their livelihood, or maimed or killed by Icelandic action before they lightly condemn the actions of those who seek to protect them. Yours truly, WALTER CLEGG, House of Commons.

From Mr Arthur Dunn

Sir, Mr Geoffrey Gorer's comments on the cod war (January 15) and, in particular, his reference to the "antics" of the Royal Navy are quite unbelievably offensive. Iceland has unilaterally declared its fishing limits to be 200 miles. To enforce these limits it has chosen to use its gunboats to cut the warps of British trawlers, thereby endangering the lives of the crews of those trawlers.

In its turn the British Government has directed the Royal Navy to defend the trawlers from the attacks of the gunboats and, in so doing, to use the minimum of force. That the orders to the Royal Navy are permissible within international law is not, I believe, in doubt. It would seem therefore that Mr Gorer's strictures should be directed to the government rather than to one of the services responsible for the defence of this country and all its inhabitants, including Mr Gorer. Yours faithfully, A. M. H. DUNN, Glendore, 210 Craykeburn Road, Craykeburn, Bangor, Co Down, January 15.

Textbook piracy

From Mr Peter Ashby

Sir, Dr Billam's concern (letter to The Times, January 14) for the development of specialist textbook publishing in cheap paperback editions illustrates the sadly widespread misconception of the economics of academic and scientific publishing. Sales of specialist works will not increase significantly at lower prices, there are just not sufficient people interested in the many esoteric aspects of every discipline.

The only way of catering for the needs of those working at the forefront of their subject is by the publication of microfiche editions. Here, however, dangers of piracy by low-cost copying are far greater than the typical £3.50 for 100 pages of photocopy. A 96-page microfiche can be copied in its entirety for less than 10 pence. Authors, publishers, readers and Mr Justice Whitford's committee on copyright must continue to confront these matters. Yours faithfully, PETER ASHBY, Managing Director, Oxford Microform Publications Ltd, Wheatheaf Yard, Elba Road, Oxford, January 15.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
January 19: The Queen held a Council at Buckingham Palace at 2.30 o'clock this afternoon. There were present the Right Hon. Edward Heath, MP (Lord President), the Right Hon. Frederick Mulley, MP (Secretary of State for Education and Science), the Right Hon. David Ennals, MP (Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), and the Right Hon. Bruce Millan, MP (Minister of State, Scottish Office).

Mr. Denis Howell, MP (Minister of State for Sport and Recreation, Department of the Environment), and Mr. Gordon Richardson (Governor of the Bank of England) were sworn in Members of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

Mr. Neville Leigh was in attendance as Clerk of the Council.

The Right Hon. Edward Heath, MP, had an audience of The Queen before the Council.

YORK HOUSE
January 19: The Duke of Kent, Colonel-in-Chief of The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, today received Lieutenant Colonel Brian Aldridge on relinquishing command of the 5th (Volunteer) Battalion and Lieutenant Colonel John Daniel on assuming command of the Battalion.

The Duchess of Kent, Patron of the British Speleological Expedition, "The Grotto", today evening attended a lecture on the expedition at the Royal Geographical Society.

Miss Jane Pugh was in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh has agreed to become patron of the Simplified Spelling Society.

The Duchess of Kent, as President, will attend the congregation of awards at the Royal Northern College of Music on February 18.

A memorial service for Sir John Wheeler-Bennett will be held at St. Margaret's, Westminster, tomorrow at noon.

Birthdays today

Lord Aylestone, 71: the Hon. Sir Henry Fisher, 58; Mr. Roy Marshall, 70; Lieutenant-General Sir Ralph Pollard, 73; Sir Theodore Tasker, 82; Sir Roy Welensky, 69.

Christening

The infant son of Mr. Charles and Lady Mary von Moltke was christened Nicholas Anthony Philip, at the Carmelite Church in London on January 15th. The godparents were Mr. Donald Cameron, Mr. Paget Langford, Mr. Lord Michael Pratt, the Countess of Ancrum and Viscountess Garmoye.

Lairing painting prizes

Mr. Thomas Mellor, a consultant architect from Kendal, has won first prize of £500 in the fourth annual painting competition sponsored by the Lairing building company. In joint second place, with £250 each, are Mr. Paul Wright of London and Mrs. Donnie Jessop of Winchester Beach, Essex. The fourth prize goes to Mr. Michael Noakes, the royal portrait painter, and Mr. Valentine Ruare, of Eppingham.

Bravery award

Corporal John Whelan, aged 30, of the Royal Irish Rangers, based at Walsingham, Wilshire, has been awarded the Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct for his attempt at rescuing a man from steam in a barge boiler room.

25 years ago

From The Times of Friday, January 19, 1951:

Jobs for shepherds

From Our Correspondent, Edinburgh, Jan. 18: "The National Farmers' Union of Scotland is awaiting the opinion of the Ministry of Labour on the suggested employment of Italian shepherds in Scotland. The matter has been raised in a letter from the Italian Consul in Glasgow."

\$2,640 paid for garniture of Chinese vases

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent
A sale of oriental ceramics and works of art at Christie's yesterday showed strong prices for decorative ceramics. The sale totalled £28,725, with a 5 per cent uplift on the top price was £2,640 with premium estimate £2,500 to £3,000 for a garniture of five blue-and-white vases of the Kang Hsi period decorated with panels of birds among flowering trees.

A new level of prices for paintings may be indicated by the album of exquisitely detailed still-life paintings of flowers, birds and fruit dating from about 1800 at £1,450 (estimate £300 to £500). They are colour paintings on paper, all measuring about 14 1/2 by 18 1/2 inches. That type of painting has in the past been modestly priced and yesterday's bidding game as a surprise. The buyer was S. Marchant.

Correction

Admiral Sir Rae McKnight's retirement, reported in *Appointments in the Forces* yesterday, has been postponed and he is taking up an appointment with the management review team at the Ministry of Defence.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr. I. L. McCall and Miss K. J. Brander
The engagement is announced between Ian Lockhart, younger son of Mr. I. L. McCall, and Miss K. J. Brander, daughter of Mr. I. L. McCall, of Newbridge, Kent, and Kathleen Jean, elder daughter of Mr. Michael and Lady Evelyn Brander, of Whitnesham, East London.

Mr. D. S. Grey and Miss J. A. D. Grievie
The engagement is announced between Duncan, elder son of Edward and Irene Grey, of Gostorth, Newcastle, and Jenny, younger daughter of Alan and Janet Grievie, of Fenham, Newcastle.

Mr. A. C. G. Haslam and Miss S. J. Rotherill
The engagement is announced between Anthony Charles Haslam, younger son of Dr. and Mrs. George Haslam, of 6 Alicia Avenue, Harrow, Middlesex, and Sally Jane, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Rotherill, of The Corbets, St. George's Hill, Weybridge.

Mr. H. Morgan Williams and Miss J. F. Scott
The engagement is announced between Hugh Morgan Williams, FRCS, of Canford Magna, and Miss Joan Frances Scott, MBE, of Swindon.

Mr. B. E. W. Wilson and Miss J. A. L. Whiting
The engagement is announced between Barry Edward William Wilson, of 11, The Grange, Brixton, Surrey, and Kathryn, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Whiting, of The Drive, Chorley Wood, Hemel Hempstead.

Wales ahead in Cup bridge

By Our Bridge Correspondent
England made a good recovery against Scotland in the first weekend of the home counties international bridge series for the Camrose Cup, played in Edinburgh. After losing the first match by 3-9 they won the second one by 12-4.

R. A. Priddy and C. Rodriguez, for England, were outstanding in their bidding judgment. In the third match, where the bridge was of high standard on both sides, a draw of 6-6 was a fair result after an exciting finish.

With eight boards to be played Scotland were trailing by 24 points, but in a great rally they scored 28-4 to make the match an even 12-12.

At Arne, where Northern Ireland were at home to Wales, the score in the first two matches was 3-9, 12-0 to Wales, but by winning the third match by 8-4 Wales have gone to the top of the league table.

League table, Wales 25, England 21, Scotland 19, Northern Ireland 17. Team: England: R. A. Priddy and C. Rodriguez; Scotland: R. A. Priddy and C. Rodriguez; Wales: R. A. Priddy and C. Rodriguez; Northern Ireland: R. A. Priddy and C. Rodriguez.

Church news

Appointments:
The Rev. H. R. Brander, formerly Vicar of St. Dunstan's, London, is to be Vicar of St. Margaret's, Essex, diocese of the Evangelical, Sandown, Isle of Wight.

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Marriages

Mr. G. Asker and Miss M. F. Spano
The marriage took place on Saturday at Farm House, near St. Giles Asker, younger son of Mr. J. Asker, of Malm, Sweden, and Miss M. F. Spano, daughter of Mr. J. Asker, of Malm, Sweden, and Mrs. Francis Thomas, and stepdaughter of Mr. Francis Thomas, of 3 Halkin Mews, SW1.

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Luncheon

West Africa Committee
The West Africa Committee gave a luncheon in London on Saturday at the Grosvenor Hotel, in honour of Mr. J. E. Allason, Secretary of State for Trade, at the Travellers' Club, Pall Mall. The chairman, Mr. W. T. G. Gates, presided.

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University news

St. Antony's College, Oxford
St. Antony's College, Oxford, has elected as its new President, Mr. J. E. Allason, Secretary of State for Trade, at the Travellers' Club, Pall Mall. The chairman, Mr. W. T. G. Gates, presided.

Mr. R. P. L. Hall and Miss J. Titchell
The marriage will take place on May 1 at Pluckley Church between Richard Philip Lawton, younger son of Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Hall, 68 Cadogan Square, SW1, and Joanna, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Titchell, First Farm, Pluckley, Kent.

Mr. J. B. Batton and Miss L. A. Russell
The engagement is announced between James Bruce, elder son of the Rev. Jack and Mrs. Batton, of Honolulu, Hawaii, and Louise Anne, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Russell, of 10, The Grange, Brixton, Surrey.

Mr. R. W. Maclean and Miss M. D. F. Wolfe
The engagement is announced between Roderick, son of Major and Mrs. R. Maclean, of Murry, and Miss M. D. F. Wolfe, daughter of Mrs. L. W. Wolfe, of Harwards Heath, Sussex, and the late Mr. H. R. L. Wolfe.

Mr. P. W. D. Taylor and Miss K. J. S. Sisson
The engagement is announced between Lieutenant Paul Taylor, Green Howards, son of Major and Mrs. P. W. D. Taylor, of Norton, 33 The Grange, Brixton, Surrey, and Kathryn, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Sisson, of 10, The Grange, Brixton, Surrey.

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

ash Leyland's
to improve
Industrial
ions, p17

LAIN
for tomorrow's
BUILDING, CIVIL
& INDUSTRIAL
ENGINEERING

Esso leads return price war offering 7p off gallon of petrol

Vielvoje correspondent
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r by offering 7p a
ft at filling stations
ompetition with the
smaller independent
as groups is strongest.
company is the first of
oil groups to with-
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offering some of its
discount of 2.5p a
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mes bring the total
to 7p a gallon. Ironi-
2.8p a gallon is only
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t of the support is
rem to stations in the
d north Midlands
as 6.850 petrol outlets
the largest marketer

Sir Robert Clark likely to stand in at Leyland

By Our Industrial Editor
Sir Robert Clark, chairman and chief executive of Hill Samuel, is expected to act as temporary chairman of British Leyland after the death of Sir Ronald Edwards.

The loss of Sir Ronald, who was appointed non-executive chairman of the new state-owned group just over four months ago, will mean another government search for a suitable candidate, who also needs the approval of the Leyland board as well as Lord Ryder's National Enterprise Board.

Sir Ronald, who was also president of the Beecham Group (he retired in May as chairman), agreed to take on the Leyland post after some "friendly persuasion", having originally turned it down. The Prime Minister was personally consulted before the appointment was made, but it is known that some other senior businessmen were also approached.

Yesterday, the National Enterprise Board, which is due to take over the Government's 95 per cent holding in British Leyland, said: "We were all aware of the invaluable contribution he was making since becoming chairman last October, and he will be greatly missed." Mr. Alex. Park, Leyland's chief executive, spoke of his deep personal regret at Sir Ronald's death. "Although he was appointed chairman only a few months ago in October, he quickly became a very good friend as well as an active and valued business associate. He gave me generous help and support during his chairmanship of the company", he stated.



Sir Robert Clark, chief executive of Hill Samuel; interim Leyland chairman, pending decisions.

It is understood that Sir Robert Clark, the merchant banker who served on the Ryder committee on Leyland's future and is chairman of the Government's Industrial Development Advisory Board, may act as an interim chairman pending decisions on the succession.

But he is not thought to be a candidate. He serves as one of the non-executive directors alongside Lord Greenhill of Harrow, Mr. John Gardiner of the NEB, and Mr. Ian McGregor, the chairman of Amax. In selecting a successor, the Government has to find an experienced industrialist capable of holding the confidence of trade unionists, Whitehall, and Lord Ryder at the NEB while allowing the new management team, under Mr. Park, sufficient freedom of action in pushing through Leyland's modernization plans. This is a considerable requirement, and partly explains the delay last year in announcing Sir Ronald's eventual selection. *Obituary, page 14 Business Diary, page 17*

PLA rationalization will close Millwall and West India docks

By Michael Baily Shipping Correspondent
A further big rationalization in its docks facilities was announced yesterday by the Port of London Authority, which is losing money heavily after a 20 per cent reduction in traffic over the past year. Two of its best known up-river docks, the West India and Millwall, are to be closed this year, apart from certain tenant operations, the PLA said.

Talks with unions and customers are taking place which are hoped to lead to transfer of the traffic in the two docks to the Royal Group slightly down-river, without compulsory redundancy.

Built in the nineteenth century, the West India and Millwall group has nearly seven miles of quay, unsuitable for most of the bigger ships of today and employs 3,500 men, of whom 2,000 are registered dockers. About 500 are employed at the modernized and highly efficient Fred Olsen terminal, the largest tenant operation which will be staying. If all the remainder choose redundancy under the voluntary severance arrangements the cost could approach £15m. A big questionmark hangs over the future of the 400 acres of land (including 127 acres of water) that will be released in the borough of Tower Hamlets as a result of the move. Before the Government's Community Land Bill the PLA could have expected a windfall of several million pounds from disposal of the land to help finance new container berths and other developments down river, but this now seems unlikely. Apart from shrinkage of traffic, the move was probably an inevitable result at some stage of new shipping and port technology which has already led to the closure of three docks systems up river from the West India and Millwall.

One single container berth of the kind now operating down river at Tilbury can handle ten times the amount of cargo in a year as ten conventional berths, while a roll-on vessel can shift in eight hours the cargo that would take five days to get on and off a conventional ship.

The new techniques, therefore, require less land as well as fewer men, and the PLA are confident there is enough room in the Royal Group of docks to handle not only the West India and Millwall traffic but any new up-river traffic attracted by present marketing.

The PLA's £500,000 profit for 1974 is believed to have fallen to a £5m loss last year with further deterioration ahead unless appropriate steps are taken.

The principal bank involved in the renegotiation of the loans is understood to be First Boston, but there are believed to be many more in view of MFC's extremely complex financing structure. It has affiliations with a number of international banks, including Western American Bank (Europe), Bankers Trust International and Midland Bank. MFC has enjoyed spectacular growth in the past 10 years, with its initial success rooted in the operation of reefer ships, specialized fruit-carrying vessels, many of which are operated under charter by the Swedish Salén shipping group. From the reefer operation, MFC moved into other areas of shipping and the formation of the joint company with Swan Hunter was seen as a bold, indeed novel, step in ship marketing. MFC, like other shipowners, plunged into the tanker boom and ordered a number of tankers from both Swan Hunter and Harland and Wolff. It has since cancelled orders placed with Harland and one very large crude carrier completed by Swan Hunter, the Tyne Pride, is still laid up without a charter on the Tyne.

In the first nine months of last year, however, MFC's earnings collapsed from \$26.7m (about £13.3m) to \$1.58m. This followed the introduction of accounting changes which resulted in a net gain of \$16.2m. Revenues were nearly halved, falling from \$127m to \$67.6m. The company said that its losses had incurred losses as a result primarily of the impact on tanker operations of the continued depressed state of that market and the sale of one tanker at a book loss of about \$5.5m.

Swan Hunter is the largest shipbuilding group in the United Kingdom and is among those scheduled for nationalization by the Government. It should be able to weather the financial implications of any failure by Swan Maritime to take most of the options. It is crucial, however, that Swan Hunter has alternative orders to occupy its large labour force. It was for this reason that the company alerted the Government last autumn to the likely difficulties. Mr. Tom Melver, Swan Hunter's managing director, would not comment last night on the developments, but the shipbuilding group is facing growing pressure from local MPs to clarify its position. The company is hopeful of an order from the Ministry of Defence for two Type 42 missile destroyers in the next few weeks, and is also understood to be actively involved in negotiations for merchant ship orders from Russia and Iran.

Another industry sector which has suffered badly from cost price increases is book publishing. Much book traffic falls in the pre-metric 1lb to 1.5lb weight category, where postal rates went up by 87 per cent in the 12 months to October. Prices for this category have risen from 22.5p in January 1975 to 42p after the last round of increases on September 29.

One of the companies most affected by the increases in this field is Book Club Associates, the largest book club in Britain with an annual postal bill of around £1.5m. Its annual postal contract is due to expire this summer. Commenting on the latest round of discussions, the Post Office has confirmed that it offers contractual terms which it considers favourable to bulk users. However, each one is negotiated individually and the terms are confidential.

Self-service: The Post Office opened its first "Exchange-post" service at the London Stock Exchange yesterday. For a fee of £120 a year firms can use the service to leave and collect mail on a self-service basis.

More banks cut prime rates
Washington, Jan 19
Morgan Guaranty Trust Company, First National Bank of Chicago and Bank of America today followed the First National City Bank's move of Friday and reduced their prime lending rates to 6 1/2 per cent from 7 per cent.

Most main United States banks are expected to move down to 6 1/2 per cent prime levels in the next few days. Later today it was announced that Wells Fargo Bank is cutting its prime rate to 6 1/2 per cent from 7 per cent tomorrow. Bankers and financial experts in the United States now widely expect still further cuts in the prime lending rate before the end of the month.

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Yesterday's reaction was not unexpected. The professional traders had been aware that the pace of the gilt-edged market might be "not hot to last", and some readjustment was regarded as inevitable.

Bid possible for Weston Pharmaceuticals
By Our Financial Staff
A takeover bid for Weston Pharmaceuticals may be on the way, after a clarifying statement yesterday from Mr. Richard Langdon, the London & County Securities liquidator.

In a statement he announced that London & County, which owns about 44 per cent of Weston's shares, is having discussions "which may lead to an offer for all the shares of the company". On the basis of yesterday's share price, down 3p at 48p, the group is capitalized at around £6.8m.

It is not clear how London & County came by its 44 per cent holding, for Weston's 1975 report and accounts show a holding of 25 per cent. Although the sale of a full 44 per cent would spark off a mandatory offer under Take-over Panel rules, it is not known whether the chairman, Mr. Ralph Weston and his board welcome the prospect of a bid.

Weston, the largest Kingdon's second largest retail chemists chain, has had a volatile history in recent years. London & County bought its original holding of around a third from the Cooperative Bank, which held them as security for loans made to Mr. Ellis Seillon, who spent some years in jail after conviction on fraud charges.

Belgian bank's loss
The sterling equivalent of 30m Belgian francs, the possible size of the loss suffered by Belgium's Société Générale de Banque from an unauthorized transaction by its branch manager in Cologne, West Germany, is £3.7m and not £37m as reported on Saturday.

One possibility would be for the banks to accept some deferral of payments. It is expected that the difficulties will be resolved within the next two weeks.

Talks have been taking place both in London and New York and both Captain Milla Brenner and Mr. Jacov Meridor, senior MFC executives, have been in London in the past few days.

Shares slide amid heavy sales of gilts
By Our Financial Staff
Stock markets suffered a reverse yesterday, with government bonds, in particular, attracting profit-taking sellers after the strong rise of the past fortnight. Short-dated issues, saw most of the business, but there were buyers as well as sellers in the market.

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Coordination advice to Arab oil states

By Roger Vielvoe

A warning that the oil producers in the Gulf must co-ordinate their oil-related developments or risk conflict among themselves was given yesterday by Mr. Abdel Muttaleb al-Kazimi, Kuwait's oil minister.

If Gulf states started building similar plants producing the same products they would soon start to fight each other as they had in the past fought the oil companies, he said in a television interview.

Four Arab producers in the Gulf—Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Abu Dhabi and Qatar—have plans for building sizeable plants to export liquid petroleum gases and natural gas liquids although there are doubts whether world markets can absorb all that output over the next five years.

Mr. Kazimi said he thought each country should concentrate on one type of oil-related development.

Unit of account plan: Central bankers from Arab oil exporting states have recommended the creation of a unit of account for use in joint economic projects, an official said in Kuwait.

Opec avoids Vienna venue

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries has decided to boycott Vienna for its next two ministerial meetings as a result of the kidnapping of delegates by terrorists at the last conference in December.

Abu Dhabi will be the venue, probably on February 1, for the meeting at which business began in Vienna in December, mainly aligning oil quality differentials, will be concluded. And the Opec finance ministers originally to meet in Vienna next Monday to discuss the establishment of a \$1,000m Opec development fund, will now meet in Paris.

Fiat says converting Innocenti plant will cost £81.5m

Rome, Jan. 19.—Fiat officials today outlined various options regarding the future of the liquidated British Leyland subsidiary, Leyland Innocenti. They reiterated that an eventual Fiat takeover of Innocenti's Lambruge factory, near Milan, to make vans would be "no bargain" for Fiat.

Cost estimates, at 1975 prices, presented by Signor Nicola

Retail sales remain sluggish at end-1975

By Melvyn Westlake

A high level of personal saving and the decline in general living standards were still depressing retail trade in the final months of 1975. But the volume of retail sales now seems to have stabilised at the present low level.

According to figures published by the Department of Industry yesterday there was actually a 1 per cent increase in the official index of retail sales during December, taking it to 106.5 (1971=100 and seasonally adjusted).

However, this figure is only a provisional estimate, and subject to revision. Indeed, a rather larger provisional increase reported for November was almost fully cancelled by subsequent downward revisions.

Furthermore, in spite of the slight rise indicated for December, sales during the fourth quarter were still about 1 per cent lower than during the average of the first nine months of last year. Compared with the same quarter of 1974 they were about 5 per cent down.

Taking 1975 as a whole, the volume of consumer spending on retail goods was some 2 per cent down on 1974, which was in turn nearly 1 per cent lower than in 1973.

Although it is not yet known how high personal savings remained in the fourth quarter, it seems almost certain that they stayed close to their record historically high levels and that this contributed to the depressed level of retail sales.

In the third quarter of last year the rate of savings to personal disposable income was 13.7 per cent—only slightly below the record 14.1 per cent reached in the early months of 1975.

In addition to this preference among private individuals for a higher cushion of savings, there was a higher saving rate in the public sector. After a fall of about 21 per cent in real personal disposable income that is after allowance for tax payments and higher prices) during the second quarter of the year, there was a further 2 per cent drop in the third quarter.

UK crane makers in inquiry over Japanese pricing

By Derek Harris

British makers of truck-mounted cranes, affected by the downturn in construction, have joined a European investigation into the pricing of Japanese machines.

The investigation is being carried out through the Committee for European Construction Equipment Manufacturers, a group of manufacturers in the United Kingdom, West Germany, Italy and to some extent, the French markets are those most affected.

The United Kingdom investigations are being carried out by the Federation of Construction Equipment and Cranes. It is already clear that Japanese machines in the 75 tons to 300 tons category—the sector in which they

BP to lease new rig to test gas discovery

A new semi-submersible rig is to be added to British Petroleum's exploration fleet later this year. The rig Celtic 1 is to be leased to the company for three years by Celtic Drilling in which the Reardon Smith Line has a 53 per cent holding.

Celtic 1 is a Norwegian-designed Aker H-3 vessel and is now under construction in Finland. It will be among the biggest rigs working in the North Sea. Because of its size and the special equipment that is being fitted, it is possible that BP will use the vessel to return to the high pressure gas field it made on block 3/29 in partnership with the National Iranian Oil Company.

working compensation funds and other write-offs would not be less than 100,000m lire.

2. As it stands the outline Fiat plan only hopes for other Milan area motor manufacturers, such as Alfa Romeo, taking on excess former Innocenti workers during reconstruction at Lambruge.

3. Cost to the Italian state in interest payments, short-time

Interest rate falls on relief grant and state aid

The maximum rate of interest for state aid loans under Section 7 of the Industry Act, 1972, was reduced yesterday.

The rate of interest on Relief Grants available in those cases where it would be appropriate to allow an interest free period has been cut from 13 per cent to 13 per cent for each interest free year.

The "concessionary" rate of interest on loans for employment-creating projects (Category A) has dropped from 101 per cent to 10 per cent while the "broadly commercial" rate of interest on loans for modernisation projects not providing additional employment (Category B) has been cut from 131 per cent to 13 per cent.

Birmingham Airport delay 'costly'

Government vacillation over the past five years on urgently needed expansion and modernisation of Birmingham Airport has cost the West Midlands dearly, according to Dr. David Atkinson, chairman of Birmingham Chamber of Industry and Commerce.

Discussing a report advocating new 140m terminal facilities, he said most frustrating of all was the fact that the new Birmingham Airport Centre, which his superb rail and road links, was to be serviced by an airport designed in the 1930s.

Dock Bill protest

Members of the Confederation of British Industry and Chambers of Commerce and Industry have appealed to the Government to reconsider enacting the Dock Work Regulation Bill.

TV revenue leaps

Britain's 15 commercial television companies' net revenue in December was £18.2m, nearly 13 per cent up on the same period last year.

Revenue for all of 1975 was £176.5m compared with 1974's £149.2m. The industry expects the improvement to continue.

£13.8m bridge order

A contract worth £13.8m to supply 137 bridges for the national bridge replacement programme in Indonesia has been won by the Balfour Beatty Group of British Insulated Callender Cables.

The contract covers the supply of more than 22 miles of Callender-Hamilton steel bridges, to be delivered over the next two years.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Banks and industry: German example

From Mr. S. Schattmann

Sir, In the second instalment of his thought-provoking account of his discussion with Messrs. Harris, Seldon and Wood of the Institute of Economic Affairs (January 15), Ronald Butt says he has asked them about other countries which had done very much better than Britain without having anything approaching a pure market economy.

In reply he was told that his examples (France, Germany, Scandinavia, Austria, Japan) aren't really comparable with Britain. They are all out of step it seems.

Space considerations permit me to comment only on what was said about Germany. Mr. Wood insisted that Germany had a different historical tradition (a point made with regard to other countries too) and "the commercial banks have always taken a more direct interest (in industry)—much more in the form of equity participation than by offering overdrafts". This, not to mind words, is simply not true—though widely believed in this country.

Why gas sales policy is bewildering

From Mr. John Spencer

Sir, Perhaps other readers of the Chairman of the Gas Corporation's letter (January 6) will be as bewildered as I.

Gas Corporation policy, says, is to sell gas at market-related prices. The chairman of the Coal Board also said something similar recently.

The must mean that if Arab oil's again double the price of their oil, Britain's indigenous energy prices will rise in sympathy. This is surely self-inflicted damage on domestic prices.

Such a policy surely demands discipline on the part of industry moguls to operate the organisation efficiently and economically.

It would be interesting to know what happens to the revenue that flows to our gas and electricity industries as a result of their cost of production rising but as a result of the Arabs charging more for oil.

Presumably it is either sent out in salary rises, or less likely, flowing to the government as a hidden tax on the users of these fuels.

Yours truly,
JOHN SPENCER,
The Mill House,
Offord Cluny,
Huntingdon,
January 7

Time for a hard look at VAT?

From Mr. Henry J. Nicholls

Sir, It is not time for a rigorous scrutiny of the impact that VAT has had on small traders?

This iniquitous tax has imposed on small businesses a burden of accounting which they are largely unable to contend.

This is borne out by the latest News Letter from Customs and Excise in which we are informed that they have successfully taken proceedings against one thousand traders in the nine months ended September of last year, with individual fines of up to £3,000 and total penalties of £119,000. They offer little information as to the amount of VAT collected. One accounting cost in dealing with VAT can be shown to be not less than 40 per cent of the amount collected.

It is not to be wondered at that many small businesses without accounts offices find it impossible to cope with the complexities of a tax system which has so far necessitated

deliberately to avoid the payment of a tax which they must clearly have understood to be due. The explanation would appear to be found in the difficulties that the VAT regulations present to any person with a qualification less than that of a certified accountant.

In a fairly business in which we now have to cope with three rates of VAT (zero, 8 per cent and 25 per cent) all currently positive rates of tax, and where we are engaged in a certain amount of importing and exporting, the total time required to keep our accounts has been increased almost 100 per cent with a consequent increase in our overheads that is entirely incommensurate with the amount of VAT we collect. Our accounting cost in dealing with VAT can be shown to be not less than 40 per cent of the amount collected.

Can nothing be done to advance the cause of replacing this burdensome tax with something simpler like the well-known and proven successful Assam sales tax which could be adjusted to provide a higher return with less than one twentieth of the work?

Yours faithfully,
HENRY J. NICHOLLS,
Managing Director,
Nicholls & Son Ltd.,
308 Holloway Road,
London, N7,
January 9.

Business to Business

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering obligations.

CONTRACTS AND TENDERS

DEMOCRATIC AND POPULAR REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA

Ministry of Industry and Energy
S.O.N.A.R.E.M.—RESEARCH DIVISION
8, RUE DES AURES-EL HARRACH

INTERNATIONAL INVITATION TO TENDER

International tenders are invited for the supply of DRILLS AND DRILLING EQUIPMENT

Conditions of tender and technical specifications may be obtained from the Equipment Service of the Research Division at EL HARRACH.

Bids accompanied by the statutory documentation should be placed in two sealed envelopes clearly marked:

"SOUMISSION APPEL D'OFFRES—DIVISION RECHERCHES"
"Concernant Sondages et Equipement de Sondage"

while the inner envelope should be similarly marked and bear the name of the bidder. All bids should be addressed to Monsieur le Directeur Generale de la SONAREM—127, Boulevard Salah BOUKOUF, Algiers and posted to reach this address at EL HARRACH, by 31 MARCH, 1976, which is the final date for receipt of tenders by SONAREM and not the final date of posting.

Bids should be sent by registered post and marked "APPEL D'OFFRES No. VP/75/001—NE PAS OUVRIR" so as to reach the Import Department of SONAREM before 30th January, 1976, at the latest, the postmark being taken as evidence of date of posting.

Bidders shall be bound by their offers for a period of six (6) months from the final date for receipt of bids.

DEMOCRATIC AND POPULAR REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA

Ministry of Industry and Energy
THE NATIONAL SOCIETY OF CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES

ADVICE OF EXTENSION OF DEADLINE

La Societe Nationale des Industries Chimiques advises all companies interested by its international invitation to tender no 1/75, concerning the survey and the execution of the "Produits en Marin" project for a cosmetic products plant, that the final date for bids has been delayed until 31st January 1976.

BUSINESS NOTICES

SMALL WESTMINSTER FIRM OF SOLICITORS PRINCIPALLY CONVEYANCING AND PROBATE

would like to hear from others interested in amalgamation. Please reply Box 1987 S. The Times.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

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ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Jan 12. Dealings End, Jan 23. § Contango Day, Jan 25. Settlement Day, Feb 3
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

BRITISH FUNDS			COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN			LOCAL AUTHORITIES			FOREIGN STOCKS			DOLLAR STOCKS			BANKS AND DISCOUNTS			BEVERAGES AND DISTILLERIES		
Company	Price	Change	Company	Price	Change	Company	Price	Change	Company	Price	Change	Company	Price	Change	Company	Price	Change	Company	Price	Change
British Overseas	100	+	Commonwealth	100	+	London & Westminster	100	+	Anglo-Siam	100	+	Bank of America	100	+	Bank of India	100	+	Guinness	100	+
British India	100	+	Foreign	100	+	City of London	100	+	Anglo-Burmese	100	+	Bank of China	100	+	Bank of Japan	100	+	Heinz	100	+
British Africa	100	+	Colonial	100	+	County of London	100	+	Anglo-Thai	100	+	Bank of India	100	+	Bank of Korea	100	+	Miller	100	+
British America	100	+	Overseas	100	+	Metropolitan	100	+	Anglo-Indo	100	+	Bank of China	100	+	Bank of Siam	100	+	Scott's	100	+
British Europe	100	+	Investment	100	+	Port of London	100	+	Anglo-Persian	100	+	Bank of India	100	+	Bank of Persia	100	+	Watson	100	+
British Asia	100	+	Trust	100	+	Water & Dock	100	+	Anglo-Australian	100	+	Bank of China	100	+	Bank of Egypt	100	+	Woolley	100	+
British Oceania	100	+	Property	100	+	London & South	100	+	Anglo-Argentine	100	+	Bank of India	100	+	Bank of Greece	100	+	Woolley	100	+
British Canada	100	+	Insurance	100	+	County of Middlesex	100	+	Anglo-Peruvian	100	+	Bank of China	100	+	Bank of Italy	100	+	Woolley	100	+
British Australia	100	+	Investment	100	+	Metropolitan	100	+	Anglo-Chinese	100	+	Bank of India	100	+	Bank of Mexico	100	+	Woolley	100	+
British New Zealand	100	+	Trust	100	+	Port of London	100	+	Anglo-Indo	100	+	Bank of China	100	+	Bank of Russia	100	+	Woolley	100	+
British South Africa	100	+	Property	100	+	Water & Dock	100	+	Anglo-Persian	100	+	Bank of India	100	+	Bank of Spain	100	+	Woolley	100	+
British West Africa	100	+	Insurance	100	+	London & South	100	+	Anglo-Argentine	100	+	Bank of China	100	+	Bank of Sweden	100	+	Woolley	100	+
British East Africa	100	+	Investment	100	+	County of Middlesex	100	+	Anglo-Chinese	100	+	Bank of India	100	+	Bank of Switzerland	100	+	Woolley	100	+
British Central Africa	100	+	Trust	100	+	Metropolitan	100	+	Anglo-Persian	100	+	Bank of China	100	+	Bank of Norway	100	+	Woolley	100	+
British South America	100	+	Property	100	+	Port of London	100	+	Anglo-Indo	100	+	Bank of India	100	+	Bank of Denmark	100	+	Woolley	100	+
British North America	100	+	Insurance	100	+	Water & Dock	100	+	Anglo-Persian	100	+	Bank of China	100	+	Bank of Finland	100	+	Woolley	100	+
British Central America	100	+	Investment	100	+	London & South	100	+	Anglo-Chinese	100	+	Bank of India	100	+	Bank of Belgium	100	+	Woolley	100	+
British West America	100	+	Trust	100	+	County of Middlesex	100	+	Anglo-Persian	100	+	Bank of China	100	+	Bank of Netherlands	100	+	Woolley	100	+
British East America	100	+	Property	100	+	Metropolitan	100	+	Anglo-Argentine	100	+	Bank of India	100	+	Bank of Luxembourg	100	+	Woolley	100	+
British Central America	100	+	Insurance	100	+	Port of London	100	+	Anglo-Indo	100	+	Bank of China	100	+	Bank of Austria	100	+	Woolley	100	+
British South America	100	+	Investment	100	+	Water & Dock	100	+	Anglo-Persian	100	+	Bank of India	100	+	Bank of Hungary	100	+	Woolley	100	+
British North America	100	+	Trust	100	+	London & South	100	+	Anglo-Chinese	100	+	Bank of China	100	+	Bank of Portugal	100	+	Woolley	100	+
British Central America	100	+	Property	100	+	County of Middlesex	100	+	Anglo-Persian	100	+	Bank of India	100	+	Bank of Greece	100	+	Woolley	100	+
British West America	100	+	Insurance	100	+	Metropolitan	100	+	Anglo-Argentine	100	+	Bank of China	100	+	Bank of Italy	100	+	Woolley	100	

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HENLEY FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Administrative Staff College wishes to appoint a person to teach financial management on post and postgraduate courses.

of teaching ability is required, both in lectures and groups. The main areas of competence are in: financial planning and control; capital appraisal; corporate finance and the capital cost of teaching of accounting, costing and control could be required.

candidates would combine experience with academic qualification, and must be able to supervise for higher degrees, for whom the College is a Recognised Teacher of the University. appropriate to age and experience, but broadly salary band from £3,000 to £8,750 + USS and overseas.

curriculum vitae should be sent to:

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Greenlands
Henley-on-Thames
Oxfordshire RG9 3AU

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Charles Barker Recruitment Confidential Reply Service

Please send full career details and list separately companies to which we should not forward your reply. Write the reference number on the envelope and post to our London office, 30 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 3DF.

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A leading firm of City solicitors with an increasing volume of shipping work is looking for additional staff to handle charter-party disputes, cargo claims and casualty work.

Candidates may be admitted or unadmitted, but should have experience in one or more of these fields.

A high level of ability is required and will be appropriately rewarded.

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Knight, Executive Consultant.

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The person required would join a young and enthusiastic team which is very much oriented towards modern Business Management techniques. The whole Management actively participates in the running of the Organisation.

It is, therefore, essential that he/she possesses all the above qualifications and shares their outlook. In addition, fluent German is required.

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UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Otago DUNEDIN, NEW ZEALAND LECTURERS OR SENIOR LECTURERS

IN THE DEPARTMENT OF
PSYCHOLOGICAL MEDICINE
(One Medical, One non-Medical)

Applications are invited for two new positions of Lecturer or Senior Lecturer in the Department of Psychological Medicine. One post is for a Lecturer in the field of Clinical Psychology and the other is for a Lecturer in the field of Behavioural Science. The successful candidate will be expected to make a significant contribution to the Department's research and teaching activities. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand.

Salary: Medical graduates £23,000-£25,000 per annum with a pension. Non-Medical graduates £18,000-£20,000 per annum with a pension. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand.

University of Bath POST DOCTORAL RESEARCH OFFICER

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING
A post doctoral or equivalent research officer is required for a research project concerned with the development of a new type of engine. The successful candidate will be expected to make a significant contribution to the Department's research activities. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, University of Bath, Bath, England.

University of Birmingham FACULTY OF MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY

CHAIR AND HEADSHIP
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
MEDICAL MICROBIOLOGY
Applications are invited for the Chair and Headship of the Department of Medical Microbiology. The successful candidate will be expected to make a significant contribution to the Department's research and teaching activities. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, University of Birmingham, Birmingham, England.

UNIVERSITY OF ESSEX CHAIR IN ECONOMICS

Applications are invited for a Chair in Economics. The successful candidate will be expected to make a significant contribution to the Department's research and teaching activities. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, University of Essex, Essex, England.

University of London READERSHIP IN SOCIOLOGY

AT THE LONDON SCHOOL OF
ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL
SCIENCE
The Senate invites applications for the above Readership. The successful candidate will be expected to make a significant contribution to the Department's research and teaching activities. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, University of London, London, England.

University of London CHAIR OF MUSIC EDUCATION AT INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

The Senate invites applications for the above Chair. The successful candidate will be expected to make a significant contribution to the Department's research and teaching activities. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, University of London, London, England.

LITIGATION SOLICITOR

Solicitor with at least one year's experience since admission required by Lincoln's Inn firm with extensive and varied litigation practice including personal injury claims for defendants.

Salary commensurate with age and experience.

Please reply with full personal and career details to Box 2223 S, The Times, marking envelope "Reference M".

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

UNIVERSITY OF STRATHCLYDE SCHOOL OF PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES

Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences
PROFESSOR IN PHARMACEUTICAL TECHNOLOGY
Applications are invited for a new Professorship in Pharmaceutical Technology. The person appointed will be Chairman of the Department of Pharmaceutical Technology. The post will be remunerated within the professorial range for Universities with corresponding benefits.

Application forms and further particulars (closing 6.7.76) may be obtained from the Registrar, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, G1 1XH, with which applications must be lodged by 28th February, 1976.

University of Bath POST DOCTORAL RESEARCH OFFICER

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING
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HEAD

ALLEY'S SCHOOL,
LONDON, E.12

The Governors invite applications for the post of Head, which has become vacant on the death of Mr. J. L. Finner.

Alley's School is a Direct Grant School becoming independent in September, 1976, with the phasing-out of the direct grant system. The School is to become fully co-educational by stages.

Full details of the appointment may be obtained from the Clerk to the Governors, Dulwich College, London, SE21 7LD. Applications should be sent to the Clerk to the Governors to arrive not later than February 14, 1976.

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Appointments

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Marketing Executive

The British Overseas Trade Board's European Components Service is seeking a Marketing Executive to operate in West Germany.

Candidates should be able to speak German, have a thorough grasp of mechanical engineering and have experience in repetitive selling to component users in Europe, preferably on behalf of a medium-sized company. The selected candidate will be London-based and will spend approximately one quarter of his or her working time overseas. Salary: approximately £5,000, negotiable.

Applications are invited from companies who can release suitable candidates for a period of 3 years' secondment or, alternatively, from individuals who would be interested in a direct term contract for a similar period.

Fuller details of the duties of the post and experience required are available on request to Mrs V. J. Kilmen, Department of Industry, Establishment Personnel Division 2A, Room 130, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (Telephone 01-215 4212).

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

LECTURER IN CIVIL ENGINEERING

(Ref. 7.1)
It is intended that applicants commencing duties in the first half of 1976. They should be qualified to teach undergraduate and postgraduate courses in soil mechanics, and to conduct research. The Department offers opportunities for research in theoretical and experimental mechanics. Detailed information about duties, facilities and conditions of appointment may be obtained from Professor V. K. Choudhury, School of Civil Engineering, University of New South Wales, Kensington, N.S.W. 1512, Australia.

RESEARCH FELLOW IN OBSTETRICS AND Gynaecology

Duties will include the supervision of research with a view to publication of research results in the field of obstetrics and gynaecology. The successful candidate will be expected to make a significant contribution to the Department's research activities. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, University of New South Wales, Kensington, N.S.W. 1512, Australia.

SENIOR TEACHING FELLOW IN GEOGRAPHY

Applications should be sent to the Registrar, University of New South Wales, Kensington, N.S.W. 1512, Australia.

University of Newcastle New South Wales PROFESSOR OF COMMERCE

Department of Commerce
Candidates should have appropriate qualifications and research experience in an area of Commerce Administration. The Department is responsible for the teaching of Commerce and Management in the Faculty of Commerce and Management. The successful candidate will be expected to make a significant contribution to the Department's research and teaching activities. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, University of Newcastle, Newcastle, New South Wales.

University of Tasmania CHAIR OF MEDICINE

Applications are invited for the Chair of Medicine which became vacant on the death of Professor J. L. Finner. The Department of Medicine is situated in the Hobart Hospital, and the successful candidate will be expected to make a significant contribution to the Department's research and teaching activities. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, University of Tasmania, Hobart, Tasmania.

University of Adelaide SENIOR LECTURER IN ANATOMY AND HISTOLOGY

(Ref. 7.1)
A research medical qualification is essential, but not essential. Persons with a research medical qualification are especially invited. The successful candidate will be expected to make a significant contribution to the Department's research and teaching activities. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, University of Adelaide, Adelaide, South Australia.

University of Melbourne LECTURER (LIMITED TENURE) IN MINERAL PROCESSING

Department of Mining
Qualifications: A degree and appropriate industrial experience in the field of mineral processing, preferably experience in the field of mineral processing. The successful candidate will be expected to make a significant contribution to the Department's research and teaching activities. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Victoria.

Queen Mary College UNIVERSITY OF LONDON LECTURER IN STATISTICS

Applications are invited for this post in the Department of Statistics. The successful candidate will be expected to make a significant contribution to the Department's research and teaching activities. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, Queen Mary College, London, England.

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Queen Mary College UNIVERSITY OF LONDON LECTURER IN STATISTICS

Applications are invited for this post in the Department of Statistics. The successful candidate will be expected to make a significant contribution to the Department's research and teaching activities. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, Queen Mary College, London, England.

STATE OF KUWAIT

National Housing Authority Employment Opportunities

The national housing authority of Kuwait requires additional staff to assist in implementing a housing programme of 6,000 dwelling units annually. Several projects of 1,500-4,000 units with all supporting infrastructure and community facilities are now being planned. Candidates should have strong experience in large scale housing development in one of the following disciplines:

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Compensation will be based on relevant experience and will include liberal fringe benefits. Applicants interested in a two year assignment in Kuwait should write, giving full details of experience and salary history to:

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P.O. BOX 23385 SAFAT, KUWAIT

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THE BRITISH ACADEMY

Thank-Offering to Britain European Research Fellowship

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A European Research Fellowship in the Humanities or Social Sciences is offered for the year 1976/77. The Fellowship is of the value of £2,000, is taxable in the United Kingdom, and is offered to British citizens who are graduates and under 35 years of age (who should be graduates and under 35 years of age) on 1 October 1976) are eligible to apply. The Fellow will be expected to carry out research leading to a book or article for publication. The Fellowship includes a full curriculum vitae, a list of references, and a list of the names of two referees who should be contacted by the Fellow. Candidates may be called for interview.

Applications should reach The Secretary,
THE BRITISH ACADEMY,
Burlington House,
Piccadilly, London W1V 0NS
before 31 March 1976.

